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SPECIAL SECTION: VILLAGE HOLIDAY SHOPPING PAGES



DECEMBER 16, 2011

ART BY MICKEY PARASKEVAS



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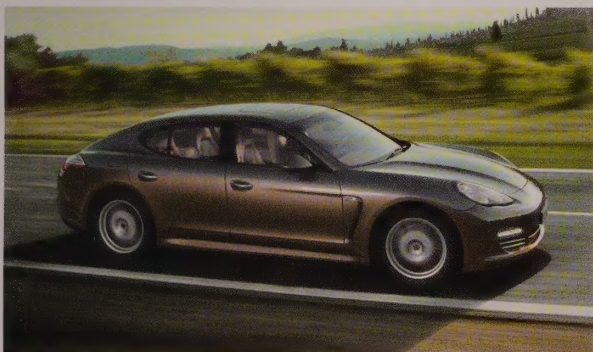
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Prices/Pymts include all costs to consumer. Tax, title & MV fees additional. 10k mi/yr \$25 each add'l. \$5,609 due at signing (incl. \$3,995 cap cost reduc., \$0 sec., \$725 Acq fee, \$889 1st pmt) Ttl/Residual \$32,004/\$54,648.75. \$0 sec. if qualified through BMW FS. \$2,500 Mission to drive credit included. Special lease & financing available through BMW financial services. Lessee responsible for excess wear/tear/main/repair. Offer expires 12/31/11.

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Porsche recommends **Mobil 1**



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Premium Plus, Black/Beige,  
iPod, Rear Camera, Stk #A5140.  
Total Due at Signing \$3,690



**2012 Q5** 3.2 quattro  
Lease for  
**\$559** / 36 mos  
MSRP: \$47,590



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quattro  
\$32,995

Silver, 14k mi, Auto,  
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## OPEN HOUSES THIS WEEKEND

### BRIDGEHAMPTON

**Sat. 12/17 & Sun. 12/18 | 12-2PM (by appointment)**  
**213 Oak Street | \$1,899,000**  
 Dramatic, long, tree-lined entrance announces this shy 1.5 acre Bridgehampton South centrally located property on bird sanctuary. A 3br, 3bth, sun-filled house plus greenhouses and approx. 1500 sf insulated light-filled barn/artist studio with 20 ft ceilings. Web#H0152417. **Cynthia Barrett 917.865.9917**

**Fri. 12/16 - Sun. 12/18 | 11:30AM-1PM (by appointment)**  
**527 Butter Lane | \$2,499,000**  
 Published in the Wall Street Journal. Single level beauty with every amenity possible crafted by published designer. Double master brs, 4brs, 4bths, Gunite pool. Adjacent 1.5 acre available to purchaser. Web#H10170. **Mosel Katzter 917.865.2943**

### EAST HAMPTON

**Sun. 12/18 | 1-2:30 PM**  
**8 Lincoln Avenue | \$869,000**  
 New Post Modern featuring 4 en suite brs with an additional half bath on the first floor. Cathedral ceiling over LR and DR leads to gourmet kitchen and den. Web#H53567. **Hara Kang 631.267.7335**

**Sun. 12/18 | 11-12:30 PM**  
**17 Ocean Blvd. | \$495,000**  
 3,000 sf Colonial has 6brs and 4.5bths. The house sits back on a nice flag lot near the end of the private road. As you drive up to the property, you will see mature landscaping and outdoor parking space in addition to the 2-car garage. Large heated pool. Web#H28806. **Hara Kang 631.267.7335**

**Sun. 12/18 | 1-3PM**  
**12 Three Mile Harbor Creek Hwy. | \$1,999,999**  
 Situated on 1 acre on top of a hill, this 5br, 6.5bth home has over 5,200 sf of living space. Features include open floor-plan, abundant windows and soaring cathedral ceilings, 3 fireplaces. Web#H0157205. **Justin Agnello 631.267.7334**

**Sat. 12/17 | 11AM-1PM**  
**591 Hands Creek | \$1,395,000**  
 All-new 5br, 3bth Traditional featuring large living/dining area to entertain. Renovated kitchen with all high-end appliances. Finished basement has a full walk-out to the pool area. Web#H36560. **Justin Agnello 631.267.7334**

**Sat. 12/17 | 11AM-1PM**  
**2 Kettle Court | \$1,399,000**  
 Located in private community and just a few miles from the village. This beautifully maintained Post Modern has 6brs, 4bths, spacious great room and heated pool on 2 acres. Web#H53551. **Justin Agnello 631.267.7334**

**Sat. 12/17 | 1-2:30PM**  
**3 Stokes Court | \$774,000**  
 4br home in a coveted location one mile to ocean. Luscious landscaping, a brick patio and deck surrounds the pool. Village fringe corner lot provides plenty of land (.72 acres) flanked by reserve. Large room for Yoga or entertaining. Web#H31644. **Mosel Katzter 917.865.2943**

**Sun. 12/18 | 1:15-3:15PM**  
**42 Scallop Avenue | \$600,000**  
 Owner/artist of modern home across the street from Hands Creek Harbor. Three brs plus loft and partially finished lower level leading out to Gunite pool on 2/3rd acre. Just 2 blocks from bay beach. Web#H14967. **Mosel Katzter 917.865.2943**

### HAMPTON BAYS

**Sat. 12/17 | 11AM-3PM**  
**165B Springville Road | \$449,000**  
 Newly renovated legal 2-family home. 2brs, 1bth, with separate electric and heat; upper floor, 5brs and 2bths with front porch, new EIK, 2-car garage. On first floor, new kitchens with stainless appliances, new baths, new hardwood floors. Web#H46877. **Bryan Whalen 631.723.4329, Anita Whalen 631.723.4329**

**Sun. 12/18 | 11AM-3PM**  
**24 Woodridge Road | \$349,000**  
 New Energy Star home. 3br, 2bth Ranch with hardwood floors, stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, and partially finished basement. Close to water and shopping. Web#H13336. **Bryan Whalen 631.723.4329**

**Sat. 12/17 | 2-3PM**  
**32 Oak Lane | \$1,999,999**  
 Come by car or boat to this waterfront gem bulkhead for 4 vessels and a floating dock. Sprawling Ranch w/4brs, 3bths, office or 5th br, EIK, LR & DR w/wall of windows bring in fab grounds and waterviews. Gunite pool, outdoor kitchen, paver patio. Web#H13071. **Adriana Jurcev 917.678.6543**

**Sat. 12/17 & Sun. 12/18 | 11AM-3PM**  
**46 Kyle Road | \$250,000**  
 Centrally located this updated Ranch features large oversized master suite, with 2 additional brs and full bath. Web#H14391. **Roman Iwaschko 631.278.3057**

### QUOGUE & EAST QUOGUE

**Sat. 12/17 & Sun. 12/18 | 11-3PM**  
**43 Old Main Road, Quogue | \$1,700,000**  
 Spectacular 2+ acres waterfront property with sunset views. Build your dream house with room for pool, tennis court and guest house. Web#H1818. **Sylvia Dorfberger 631.288.6244**

**Sat. 12/17 | 12:30-1:30PM**  
**8 Skyes Neck Court, East Quogue | \$899,000**  
 Open, spacious Contemporary with 3brs and 2 full baths situated on a manicured 1.1 acre lot. Open floor plan. LR with fpl, fully equipped kitchen with granite counter tops and an amazing outdoor living space. Web#H44396. **Adriana Jurcev 917.678.6543**

**Sat. 12/17 | 11AM-12:30PM**  
**72 Squires Avenue, East Quogue | \$355,000**  
 Tiana Shores nicely situated on .46 acre lot. 3brs, 2bths, LR with fpl, dining area, EIK, sun room. Full basement and 1.5-car garage. Move-in condition South of the highway. Web#H44837. **Adriana Jurcev 917.678.6543**

**Sat. 12/17 & Sun. 12/18 | 12-2PM**  
**6 Kate Court, East Quogue | \$1,150,000**  
 5br, 4bth Post Modern with finished basement, heated pool, custom kitchen, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, FDR, LR, 2 master suites, Jacuzzi and 2-car garage. Web#H39957. **Mariko Pichardo 917.301.2416, Leandro Pichardo 917.359.4991**

**Sat. 12/17 & Sun. 12/18 | 12-2PM**  
**16 Henrys Hollow Court, East Quogue | \$2,495,000**  
 Open floor plan featuring custom wainscoting, 3 fpls, chef's kitchen with granite counters and professional appliances, master en suite, 3 en suite baths plus a bedroom on the first floor. Finished basement, heated pool, tennis and mature landscaping. Web#H47430. **Mariko Pichardo 917.301.2416, Leandro Pichardo 917.359.4991**

**Sat. 12/17 & Sun. 12/18 | 11-3PM**  
**28 Midhampton Road, Quogue | \$1,175,000**  
 Private setting in great location. Move-in mint condition, open floor plan, updated designer kitchen, fpl, hardwoods, 4brs and 3bths. Web#H12769. **Roman Iwaschko 631.278.3057**

### SAG HARBOR

**Sat. 12/17 | 11:30AM-1PM**  
**26 Dogwood Street | \$415,0000**  
 The quintessential Sag Harbor Beach Cottage. A lovingly maintained 2 bed,1 bath home complete with outdoor shower, beautiful back deck for dining under the stars, and a front sun porch. Enjoy private bay beach, close to the Village of Sag Harbor and Long Beach. Web#H31168. **Jordan Daniel 631.267.7307**

**Sat. 12/17 | 12:30-2PM**  
**21 Elm Street | \$499,999**  
 Charming Sag Harbor home for sale. Home was built in the 1940's. Located on a quiet street with close proximity to bay beach access. The property features a one car garage, full basement and is priced very well. Web#H36334. **Justin Agnello 631.267.7334**

**Sat. 12/17 | 11AM-12:30PM**  
**9 N. Valley Road | \$599,000**  
 3brs, 2bths sits on .47 of an acre. The house is near village and beach. LR, DR and a bonus room. Room for pool. Web#H47058. **Justin Agnello 631.267.7334**

**Sat. 12/17 | 2-4PM**  
**497 Brick Kiln Road | \$899,000**  
 A great home to get away with all conveniences right near by. The home has a double height living room with huge fireplace, modern kitchen, spacious 3brs 2bths and a loft as well. The back yard has plenty of sun and lawn with a heated pool. Exclusive. Web#H34868. **Hara Kang 631.267.7335**

### SOUTHAMPTON

**Sun. 12/18 | 12-2PM**  
**158 West Neck Road | \$1,535,000**  
 Set on a private wooded acre, this 3,400 sf, state-of-the-art, energy efficient home boasts 4brs, 3.5bths, 9ft ceilings, hard wood floors, granite and stainless kitchen, marble baths, and a gorgeous stone faced fpl. First and second floor master suites, blue stone coping surrounds the 20x40 Gunite pool with southern exposure. Web#H26345. **Raphael Avigdor 631.204.2740**

**Sun. 12/18 | 11AM-1PM**  
**196 Hill Street | \$1,800,000**  
 A stately private driveway leads to the exquisitely renovated home, with 4brs, 2 new marble baths, new gourmet kitchen, central air, and a heated Gunite pool. Web#H33260. **Joan Blank 631.537.7009**

**Fri. 12/16 | 11AM-12:30PM**  
**8 Club Drive, Shinnecock Hills | \$529,000**  
 Priced at a SELL NOW PRICE - extensively renovated 4br, 3bth high Ranch which is ideal for use on 2 levels with separate entrances for the family. Bright kitchen/dining area plus LR with fpl and room for pool. Large high lot, enjoy the prevailing breezes. Web#H38109. **Michael Nappa 631.204.2726**

**Sat. 12/17 - 12:30-2PM**  
**307 Flying Point Road | \$2,500,000**  
 Southampton Village home in excellent condition on beautiful, private, 1.1 acre property close to the ocean beaches features 3brs, 3bths including a very large master bedroom with lots of custom closet space, 2-car garage, Gunite pool and many other attractive amenities. Web#H44957. **Michael Nappa 631.204.2726**

### WESTHAMPTON

**Sat. 12/18 & Sun 12/17 | 11AM-3PM**  
**844 Dune Road | \$2,495,000**  
 Bayfront with Ocean access... Enjoy your summer in this Traditional Modern 4br, 4 bth home located on the bay. Web#H47204. **Roman Iwaschko 631.278.3057**

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THIS ISSUE IS DEDICATED TO THE COMMEMORATION OF CHANUKAH.

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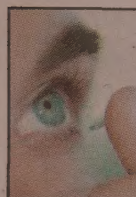
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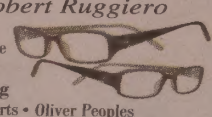
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4:30 1:15 6:35 7:40  
7:15 5:10 2:15 12:55 10:00 2:15  
12:30 11:15 5:10 8:30 11:30  
4:20 9:40 2:20 9:40  
6:45 7:35 2:35  
8:45 2:45



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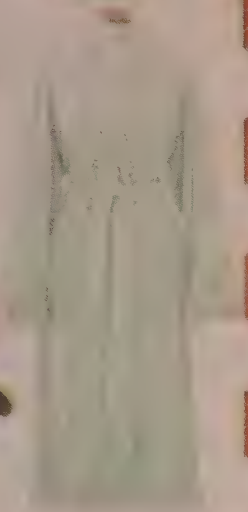
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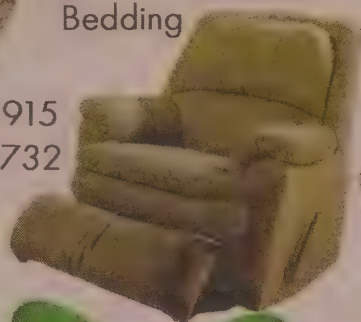


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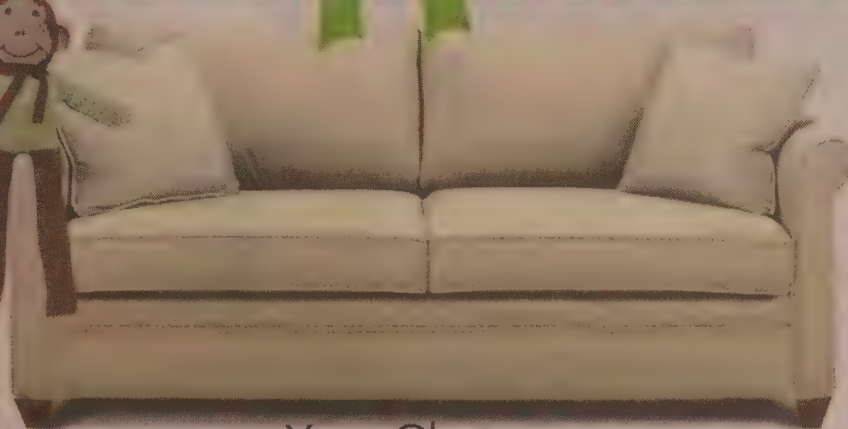


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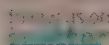
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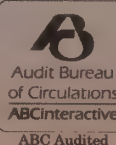
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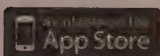
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Sharon Marie Buckler

Sleighting through the blizzard.

# Being Santa

## Heading Through Snow in the Sleigh Along the Downtown Parade

By Dan Rattiner

On the morning of Saturday, November 5, I got a call from Marina Van, the director of the East Hampton Chamber of Commerce about the upcoming Santa Christmas parade in that town.

"Can you check and see if Santa Claus would be available on December 3?" she asked.

It was an odd way of putting it. She'd asked me about being Santa last year and I had done that. Why be so coy about this year? I asked her.

"It is a big commitment," she said. "And last year you went to all that trouble, renting a Santa suit and everything. I wasn't sure you'd do it again."

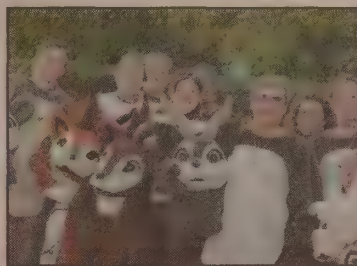
Marina doesn't know me that well. She was talking to a man who for 23 straight years took his four young children to Disneyworld, at one point, on the 20th year, asking the suits at that place by mail that inasmuch as I'd done this for so long could they foot the bill for my 20th anniversary? They said no.

"Are you kidding me?" I asked Marina. "I didn't rent a suit last year, I BOUGHT one."

Dan Rattiner's second memoir, *IN THE HAMPTONS TOO: Further Encounters with Farmers, Fishermen, Artists, Billionaires and Celebrities*, is available in hardcover wherever books are sold. The first memoir, *IN THE HAMPTONS*, published by Random House, is available in paperback. A third memoir, *STILL IN THE HAMPTONS*, will be published in May.



Sharon Marie Buckler



It's the most expensive one I could find. Cost me \$350."

And so, at 9 a.m. last Saturday, I walked out my front door to my Tahoe dressed in full Santa regalia and headed down toward town to the tallest structure in East Hampton, the East Hampton Presbyterian Church. On Main Street, I passed the hordes of adults and children already waiting patiently on the sides of that road for the parade to begin, and then found myself having to jockey the Tahoe from the right lane to the left, thus cutting off a man driving a Previa so I make the left into the church grounds. He looked over to see who was doing this.

"Move over, bozo," I mumbled, "it's Santa Claus coming through."

The church lawn was teeming with elves, reindeer, uniformed firemen, float attendants and other North Pole citizens. I parked on the lawn, got out of the car and quickly sauntered over to the big sleigh, the same one from last year, there at the end of the parade line. Hey, it's Santa, we're good to go now. I smiled. I loved it. I'm such a ham.

By the sleigh, I met Mrs. Claus, Beth Davidson, the daughter of my Mrs. Claus

from last year. You know how it is these days with all the divorces and remarriages and everything. We shook hands. She told me her mother had sewn her costume. She also told me when I asked that she and a partner owned the Complements lingerie stores in Southampton and Bridgehampton, into which I have been on occasion. She wore a bonnet and had these really authentic-looking granny glasses perched on the tip of her nose.

The pre-parade situation went on for about half an hour with everybody talking to everybody else. Apparently, many people see one another once a year at this thing, dressed up as a reindeer or a pumpkin or some other thing. Me and the wife climbed up onto our sleigh as parade time approached—shouted out to us in a bullhorn from somewhere as "FIVE MINUTES." From our perch, we could look down at the crew in front of the sleigh—eight full grown men and women in reindeer costumes wearing brown furry suits with the zippers down the back from neck to wiggly tail and helmets with antlers either on their heads or under their arms as they waited for the signal to begin. I also was able to test out the reins that went out to them—big ropes with jingle bells on them. What a rig!

Sitting up there, contemplating what was to come, I felt proud of the fact that I had remembered not to screw up something I screwed up last year. Midway through last year's parade, I had realized that up there on top of the sleigh, the lenses of my fancy

(continued on page 22)



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## South O' the Highway (and the North too)

The Hamptons will continue to be seen on the small screen. ABC's "Revenge," which takes place on the South Fork, will live to see another season. The reason for its success? Show star **Madeleine Stowe** has a theory: "I think the average American is going to want to see the takedown of the rich."

\* \* \*

Danshamptons.com's **David Rattiner** appeared on "Inside Edition" last week to share his insights on **Christie Brinkley's** tax mix-up.

\* \* \*

East Enders flocked to local church fairs. The St. Nick's Fair at Christ Church in Sag Harbor might boast "most arty" sale – while painter **April Gornik** perused the fair trade goods, artist **Brooke Williams** and daughter **Ada** bought books from **Carol Spencer** of Diaspora Books.

\* \* \*

The Yale Whiffenpoofs, including **Raphael Odell Shapiro** of Sag Harbor, will join the Harvard Krokodiloes, Princeton Nassoons, and **Darren Criss** (from "Glee") on stage in at **Alice Tully Hall** in New York on December 17 at 8:30 p.m. for their second annual "Sing Out, Raise Hope" benefit concert. Funds raised support the **Elizabeth Glaser Foundation Pediatric AIDS Foundation**—a nonprofit organization dedicated to pediatric HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment—and The Trevor Project, an organization that provides suicide intervention services for LGBTQ youth.

\* \* \*

**Ellen and Chuck Scarborough** will be honored on July 21, 2012 by the Southampton Animal Shelter Foundation. **Sandra McConnell** will be hosting a dinner at her magnificent waterfront home in Southampton and **Jean Shafiroff** will serve as the event's chairperson.

\* \* \*

The public is invited to sponsor a new beehive at the Quogue Wildlife Refuge. Beekeepers **John and Pat Carson** have been granted permission to keep to 10 new hives to promote pollination. Sponsors are rewarded with... you guessed it, honey.

\* \* \*

**Lucette Lagnado**, *Wall Street Journal* reporter and Sag Harbor resident, has a new book out. *The Arrogant Years: One Girl's Search for Her Lost Youth, From Cairo to Brooklyn* was called "a paragon of memoir writing" by *The New York Times*.

\* \* \*

**Marcus Bigaro**, beverage director at Montauk's Surf Lodge, is opening If Mom Only Knew, a cocktail bar, on New York's Lower East Side. Said Bigaro, "It is definitely not a nightclub. It's simply a neighborhood joint with funky music and creative cocktails."

\* \* \*

**Roxanne Bok**, author of *Horsekeeping*,



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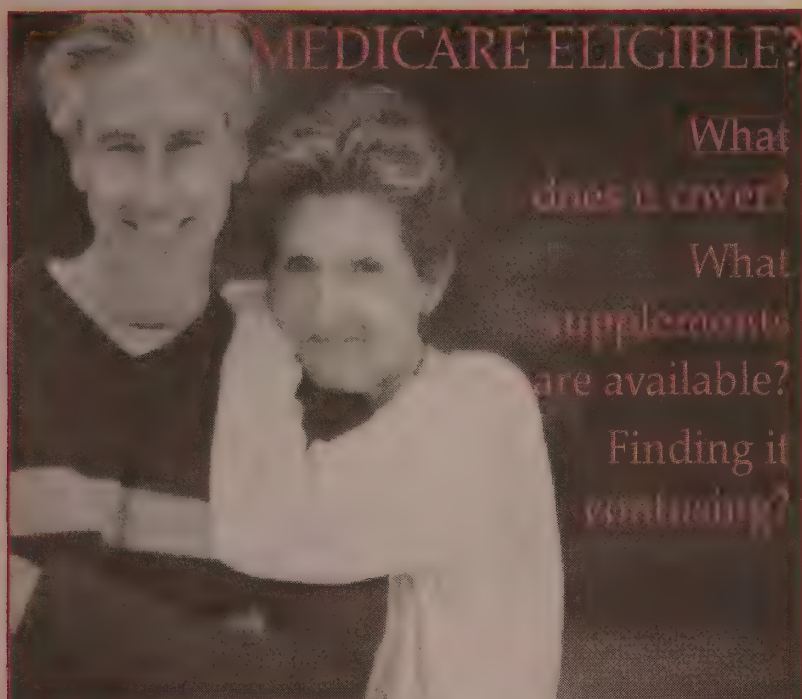
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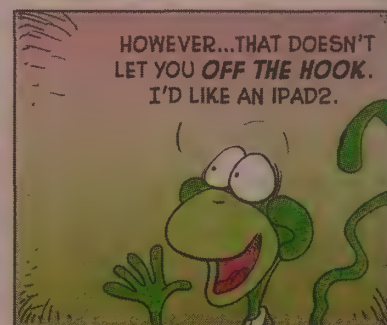
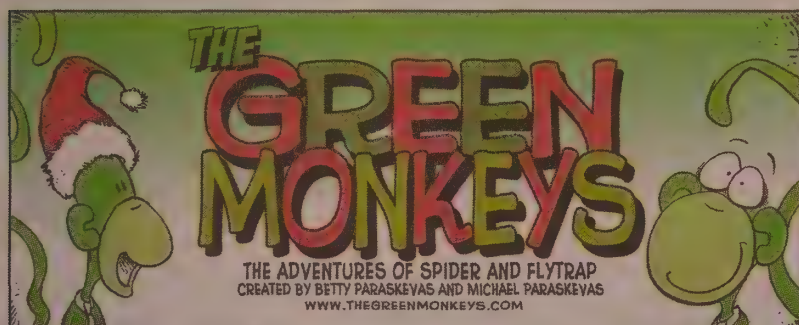
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# Who to Sacrifice?

## Deciding on Which North Fork Village Will Become a Hampton

By Dan Rattiner

We here at *Dan's Papers* are constantly coming up with new ideas. Most won't work. We thought of baseball cards with pictures of real estate brokers on them. We thought of a story telling contest. Most recently, we've been considering publishing a book of works of literature by Hampton authors.

This presents a problem. Although many well-known authors live in the Hamptons, there are also many well-known authors tucked away on the North Fork. What would you call a book that contained the works of authors from both the North Fork and the Hamptons? *The North Fork and Hamptons Literary Review*? Doesn't quite roll off your tongue, does it.

You could call it *The East End Literary Review*, I think, but that is kind of flat. You need the word Hamptons in it. That's the dazzling word. E. L. Doctorow might be tempted to submit something to *The Hampton Review*. He probably wouldn't submit something to *The East End Review*. Isn't quite up there. I mean there's *The Paris Review*. *The Hampton Review* would work too.

All this has led me to the conclusion that in this matter and other matters like it, the North Fork needs to consider itself a Hampton. That would make us all one. The North Fork has earned its stripes in recent years, I think. I hereby, as King of the Hamptons, make the offer to the North Fork. Consider yourself part

of the Hamptons.

Now I know there are going to be objections to this. The North Fork has fought long and hard to consider itself the North Fork. It's an old revered name. It long looked up to the Hamptons, was jealous of the Hamptons, felt superior and more normal than the plastic Hamptons. It glories in its separation from the Hamptons. And, in fact, it's on the North Fork.

I think all of this will be solved by the North Fork becoming swallowed up by the Hamptons. And I think it can be done without ruffling the feathers as I've described above by not having to have the name North Fork sent down the

(continued on page 24)

## FORCING ENVIRONMENTALIST LARRY PENNY OUT

By T.J. Clemente

Larry Penny has served as the East Hampton Town Natural Resources Department (NRD) Director since 1984, but his tenure may be at an end.

Last week, the East Hampton Town Board suspended Penny for 30 days without pay after Town Attorney John Jilnicki charged him with 16 counts of misconduct, insubordination and incompetence for, among other possible violations, storing animal carcasses without proper authorization in the basement of his office in the town complex at 300 Pantigo Place.

The Board also cited Penny's use of the department budget and employees and his management of town tree clearing projects as reasons for the suspension.

Penny refused to say cutting his staff from

three to just him wasn't the cause of such problems but admitted, "Being short staffed didn't help." He said all reports of permits being late and so forth is pure politics by East Hampton Town Supervisor Bill Wilkinson, who is reportedly upset that Penny would not retire. Even a charge of storing, in Penny's words, "less than a full quart of formaldehyde solution improperly is sort of absurd. There was no danger. I am qualified." According to reports, Penny has claimed to collect and store the carcasses to give to museums and for toxicology research.

Penny is considered—by scores of admirers—to have been years ahead of his time when it came to recognizing the importance of protecting the environment in East Hampton. Born in Mattituck in 1934, Penny was one

of the first people ever to receive a degree in Wildlife Conservation from Cornell University. Penny received subsequent graduate degrees from San Francisco State, as well as the former Long Island University at Southampton.

Years back, in an interview in his office, I noted that there was an abundance of space filled with folders, boxes and all sorts of paraphernalia you might see in the back room of the science department of a well-financed high school. Now it seems his collection of dead local animals that he had preserved in freezers may lead to Penny's dismissal.

Penny said that about four weeks ago, Supervisor Wilkinson, perhaps frustrated over the speed in which Penny was removing

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# Santa (continued from page 17)

wire rimmed glasses were turning darker and darker to protect my eyes from the sun. It was way out of character for Santa. This year I was wearing glasses that did not do that.

And so, we were off, rumbling down Main Street at a stately two miles an hour bringing up the very end of the parade. I looked forward out at the rear ends of the reindeer and jiggled the reins. In front of my reindeer was a float filled with a gaggle of elves. In front of that and going on and on, well, you get the idea.

There was something further behind us though. It was an enclosed box truck from the police department with the word EMERGENCY on the side. It was THAT which was the real end of the parade.

"That's where they put all the drunks and rowdies they round up along the parade route," I told Mrs. Claus. I had taken to talking to her as a mentor. This was her first time, this was my second.

"You will not believe how the kids react seeing us," I told her. "Some are terrified. Some are in awe."

We had to talk loud to one another, not only because of the cheering but because of the music, which consisted of "Here Comes Santa Claus," "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" and other favorites, sung so beautifully by Bing Crosby and coming out over loud speakers.

"There is nobody more famous than us this morning," Mrs. Santa said.

"When we reach the left turn going onto Newtown Lane," I told her, "we'll stand the rest of the way."

I thought, for those on Newtown Lane, this would be a certain gesture of respect and high drama on our part, perhaps an Academy Award performance.

In the back seat behind us in the sleigh was a 10-year-old boy dressed as an elf. Besides attending us, he was also the operator of the snowflake-making machine, a switch for which he had on the seat next to him. When he pressed the switch, a flurry of snowflakes would be blown up out of a tube at the front of the sleigh to sprinkle down on us as we moved along.

Well, I thought as the first blast hit me, I had remembered the glasses, but I had forgotten about this. The snow gets all over you, on your costume, even behind your glasses and into your eyes. It makes your eyes blink and you need, on occasion, to brush the flakes away. It's a non-Santa like gesture you try to do as little as possible.

Indeed, last year, this had alarmed me.

"I think these flakes are Styrofoam or something," I said to Beth. "Whatever they are, they are not good for you."

I turned to the elf and asked him to tone it down, it was the idea of the snow, a few flakes would do it, you didn't need a blizzard. He said he would comply and he did.

"The flakes are potato flakes," Mrs. Claus told me.

"What?"

"They come in a box. You add water and they make mashed potatoes. We had to round up dozens of the boxes."

Oh.

We grinned and waved to as many kids as we could down below on either side of the road. There were so many children. I not only waved, but sometimes extended my arm to point to one or another of them, smiling broadly, in the way that politicians or entertainers do to people in the audience when they come on stage to the cheers of the crowd.

"Ho, ho, ho," I shouted. I took one side of the street. Beth took the other.

Here's how these kids reacted to seeing Santa Claus.

"It's really him, oh my God." (This comment is followed by being frozen to the spot, then by either a dangerous zombie-like walk out into the street to try to touch Santa thus getting the parent rushing out to prevent that, or a scurrying back to the safety of the lower leg of the parent.)

"This is not real. It's a fake. They can't fool me."

"What's he doing HERE? Shouldn't he be up at the North Pole making toys?"

This year I saw a reaction I had never seen before. It was from an apparently very smart five-year-old boy.

"Hey, what the hell is this? Nobody told me about this guy before? I need some sort of explanation."

Now, as we passed under the traffic light at the crossroads in the very center of town to turn onto Newtown Lane, as planned, we dramatically stood up to take full command. We continued on, wiping the potato flakes, and smiling and waving as we passed the hardware



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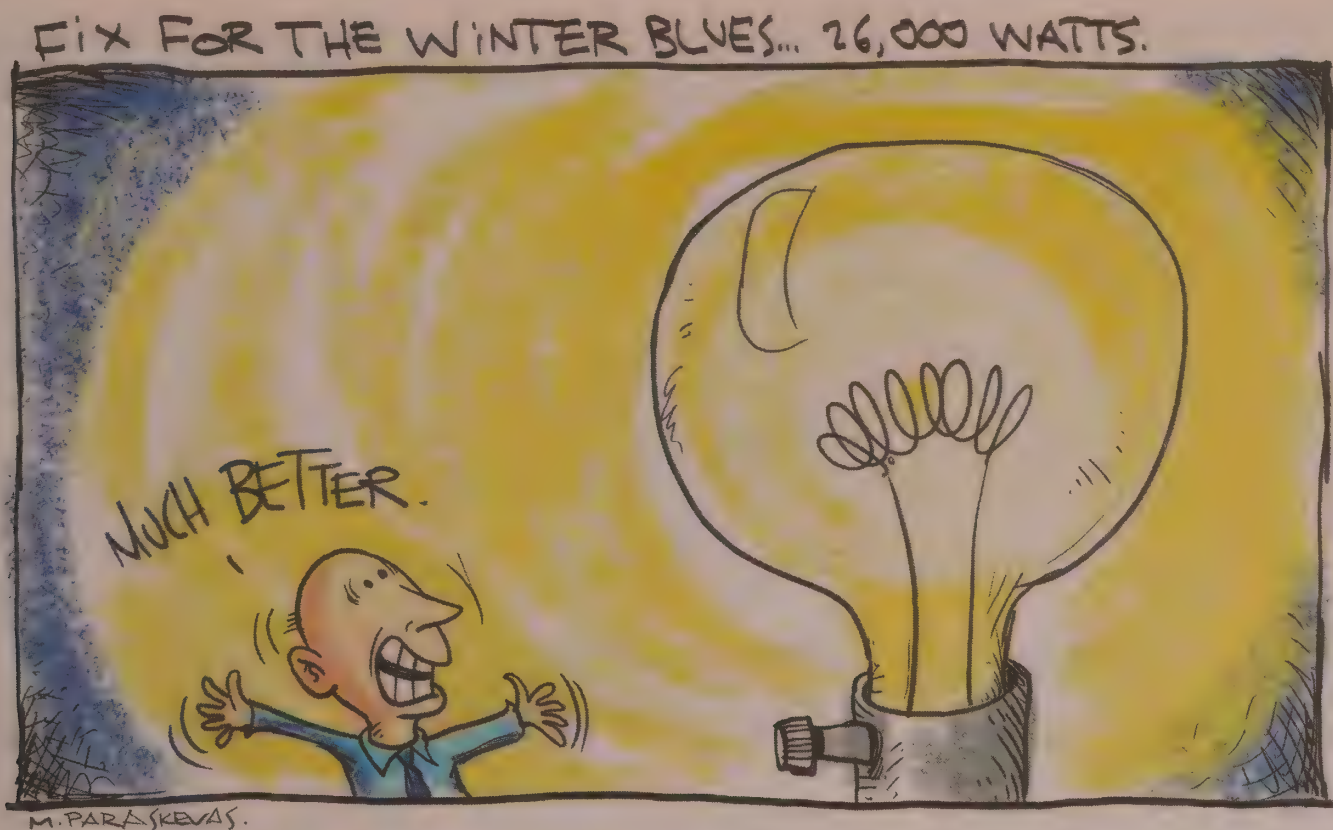


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# Winter Solstice

## There's a Flaw in the Earth's Ability to Smartly Circle the Sun

By Dan Rattiner

Next Thursday, December 22, is the shortest day of the year. You wake up in the dark, have breakfast in the dark, lunch in the dark and then the sun rises. And then, just before dinner, it sets. It's awful.

It didn't used to be like this. I remember years ago when I was a boy, maybe it was months ago, well it was last June when the sun rose gloriously at a quarter to six in the morning, passed high overhead during the day and then set also gloriously around nine at night. I recall that a few weeks further on, on the Fourth of July, the authorities had to wait until 9:30 p.m. before it got dark enough for

them to start sending off the fireworks. Some people, tired of waiting, had already gone home by then.

Those in the know tell me there seems to be something wrong with the earth. The earth is supposed to make a perfect circle around the sun. All the other planets dutifully make perfect circles around the sun. But somehow, somewhere, something went a little cuckoo inside the earth and it began to spin funny and wobble as it went around. It also tipped on its axis a certain number of degrees. Soon, the elliptical path around the sun it was describing became quite noticeable. You couldn't miss it.

It's alarming and in need of repair, our earth

is. But nobody has any idea where to take it. Also, if it is taken in for repair, where do we go to wait while it's in there? It certainly is a worrisome thing. The authorities, I think, have been keeping this awful situation from us. Why get us upset? We can't do anything about it. It's getting worse. Well, now you know the truth.

One of the really bad things about all of this, besides the fact that you can see the telltale evidence of all this awfulness every uh, day, is that we have during the winter only a limited number of hours to get our Vitamin D. You can take Vitamin D pills to get Vitamin D—there are even chewable pills you can take—but it's

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## 300 POLAR BEARS RUN INTO THE OCEAN!

By David Lion Rattiner

Was that the Mayor of Southampton dressed up as KISS?

Yes. Yes, it was.

And this only can mean one thing, The Southampton Polar Bear Plunge at Coopers Beach is taking place. Mayor Mark Epley showed up at the Polar Bear Plunge on Saturday morning flanked by his two sons and a friend all dressed up as the band. The event drew hundreds of people to the beach, although it did look noticeably smaller than it did last year.

On the beach, up high on the dune and off to the east side were four men dressed in full Revolutionary War era uniforms and armed with a cannon that they would fire to signal

plungers into the ocean. The water was 53 degrees, and there were many costumes on the beach, including a man dressed in drag, several Santa Clauses and a red M&M. The entire event is done to raise money for the Human Resources of the Hamptons charity.

The Southampton Fire Department, as well as members of the Southampton Ocean Rescue team who were wearing full wetsuits to battle the cold, were on hand to save any swimmer if anything were to go wrong. But with the ocean as flat as glass, that didn't seem to be an issue.

Rumor had spread that many chickened out to do the plunge because the night before the weather report was rain. But ever since the Polar Bear Plunge in Southampton has been in existence, at least according to the emcee at

the event Bonnie Grice, who hosts a radio show on WLIU, "It has always been good weather for this event."

The costumes that were on display on the beach were worthy of a Halloween contest. Denise Corley and Tom Fitzgibbons, both professionals in the Hamptons and in New York City, dressed up appropriately as penguins. Jimmy Mack dressed up in full drag, and then there was Southampton Trustee Mark Yastrzemski who jumped in the water while dressed in a full business suit and sunglasses. "I wear the same suit every year," he said.

The event was very much a fun affair. When the cannon was shot, after a signal was given by a man dressed up in a polar bear costume

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# North Fork

(continued from page 21)

laundry chute to oblivion.

Consider this for a moment. Here in the Hamptons, there are a whole lot of communities that do not have the word "Hampton" in them. They include Amagansett, Sagaponack, Quogue and Noyac. And yet they are all Hamptons.

My idea is that to make the North Fork part of the Hamptons, the North Fork needs only to have just one village change its name to include the word Hampton. That's all it would take. Now, with a "Hamptons" on the North Fork, you could legally say that North Fork is part of the Hamptons just as the South Fork is part of the Hamptons.

I should point out that there are towns on the outskirts of the Hamptons that have been so eager to become Hamptons that they have

tried to change their names to include the word "Hampton" in them. Parts of Calverton tried to call themselves North Hampton and failed. Mastic tried to change its name to Hampton Harbor and failed. Years ago—and many people don't know this—a thriving village petitioned the State of New York to allow itself to change its name from Good Ground to Hampton Bays and succeeded. That's why you never heard of Good Ground.

But back to the North Fork. Which village or hamlet on the North Fork should be asked to make the ultimate sacrifice? There are many to choose from. Thirteen in all.

Start with Orient at the eastern end of the North Fork. Orient is a great name. You orient yourself there at the tip of the North Fork, at

the very end. You can't change Orient.

Heading west from Orient is East Marion. This guy Marion was a famous Revolutionary War fighter. There is a town called Marion somewhere. I think East Marion was named for when he went east. I think we need to leave that alone.

Greenport is the big fishing village and tourist resort on the North Fork. It already has a reputation. We can't change that.

Southold is locked in endless combat with Southampton on the South Fork, er, Hamptons, over which town was the first town in the State of New York. Both claim 1640 so it comes down to which month. We can't mess with that.

Peconic comes after Southold. It's kind of a boring name, although it bears the same name as the proposed new county we have all been fighting for out here. Kinda confusing having it named like that. We should set it aside for future consideration.

Cutchogue could be a candidate, but I'm inclined to accept the fact that all the Indian names on eastern Long Island— Quogue, Amagansett, Sagaponack, Quogue in the Hamptons, and all the other Indian-named towns on the North Fork— should be left alone. The Indians deserve all the credit we could give them.

Next comes New Suffolk. New Suffolk is a dumb name, but it has a sort of uplifting spirit to it. There is Suffolk which is the name of the county we want to split from and Suffolk in England, which is where many of the people doing the naming came from. Also, New Suffolk was the home of one of the first Submarine Bases in America. This was around 1899. I think New Suffolk has earned its stripes. I give it a pass.

Mattituck is exempt. It also is an Indian name.

After Mattituck is Laurel, named after the tree I think, or some woman by that name or maybe by a hurricane. I think "Laurel Hampton" has a nice ring to it. I think we should set it aside for later consideration.

Next up is Jamesport, followed by South Jamesport. This is surely a confusing business. If James is a port, then why is Jamesport inland while South Jamesport is the port? Or at least there's a few docks where boats tie up there. I think these two are both up for the ultimate sacrifice.

Northville comes next. This is a place rather than a town, a flat place north of Jamesport where a big oil company called Northville Industries built a sprawling series of oil and gas tank warehouses. I think the name came from the name a potato farmer gave to his farm, which he later sold to the oil company. That's all I know about it, except that today, I think that this part of "Northville Oil" has been bought up by another company, however, and the tanks don't even have that name on the side of them anymore. Northville, I say, is a perfect candidate for being renamed a Hampton.

And finally, there is Aquebogue, another Indian name, which is excused because of that.

So that's it. After Aquebogue comes Riverhead, which is where the two fish tails of eastern Long Island, the North Fork and South Fork, come together attached at some sort of crotch or groin into the loins known as



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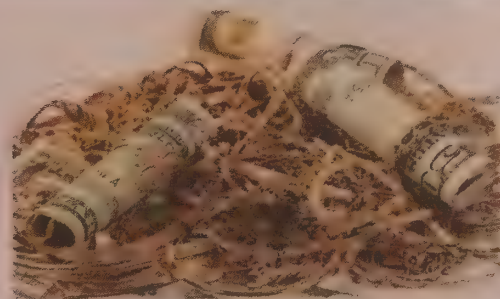
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# Penny

(continued from page 21)

the animal carcasses in the basement took matters into his own hands and ordered an independent contractor to unceremoniously dump the collection. Now these materials will never reach the museums they were intended to benefit. Now at risk is the status of East Hampton's top environmentalist.

The concept of instituting concern for the protection of the wetlands and the environments of East Hampton began back in 1984. Penny always mentions the contributions of Malcolm Hare and Richard Cummings. The idea Penny said back then was to, "Stop the bulldozers from filling in the wetlands," it was Penny who ended up with the authority to issue, "Stop work orders." Today there are major park areas such as Shadmoor, Hither Woods, the Grace Estate, Camp Hero and Barcelona that might be housing developments if Penny hadn't personally stood up for the environment. He puts the numbers at about 1,000 homes not built, and 750 acres of wilderness preserved by his work.

Penny talked specifically about the Camp Hero situation in 1987, where he stopped a condo development and instead helped create a state park. He also was co-author of the long-range town comprehensive plan in 1984 that, to this day, is the cornerstone to the way East Hampton avoided overdevelopment.

On another front Penny's zeal in protecting the Piping Plover (bird) has turned East Hampton into a place with in his words, "more Piping Plovers per mile of beach than anywhere in the United States." Through the Open Marsh Water Management (OMWM) project, the NRD built small dams to help

tackle a mosquito problem before it became unmanageable. Penny also has supervised the awarding of almost \$1 million in grants, which has helped create hundreds of acres of sanctuaries. In addition, he is working to restore Oyster Pond in Montauk to its natural beauty. Partnering with the State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Penny's office tests for coliform counts in the pond, which was closed to shell fishing in 1986 after the DEC recorded high coliform counts.

Even the lone tower on Napeague only exists because of Penny. As he tells the story, "In 1985, there were two towers there on Napeague. I went to Montauk one day and on the way back there was only one tower standing with the other about to be taken down. I pulled out my red tape and issued a stop work order. Today the saved tower that so many sailors use as a landmark is in active operation as a State Police Radio tower." Penny smiles and said it was then he acquired the nickname, "tape man," for taping off areas with his famous red tape due to environmental issues.

In 2004, Penny spearheaded efforts to use native plants verses foreign ones to help control and prevent flooding. As of now, the plan seems to be working and has been a model for other communities.

Now, at 76 years old and with an approximate \$95,000 town salary, Penny has begun talking to a lawyer to defend himself from charges he said, "I first saw in the newspapers." The East Hampton Supervisor's office, when contacted, was polite in just stating the Supervisor's requests/orders cannot be ignored without consequences. As the director of the Natural

Resources Department, Penny has eight days to respond to the charges, and he has a right to a hearing. At the moment there is no official candidate to replace Penny. Penny believes the position may be terminated.

## A SHAME

There are ways to end the career of a celebrated environmentalist who has done such wonderful things for this town. It is not this heavy-handed approach, more suitable to the way it might be done at a giant international corporation. If Penny should, when the time comes, retire, he should be retired with a dinner, a thank you for his service and some sort of wonderful plaque. A list of his achievements should be inscribed in the Town's records.

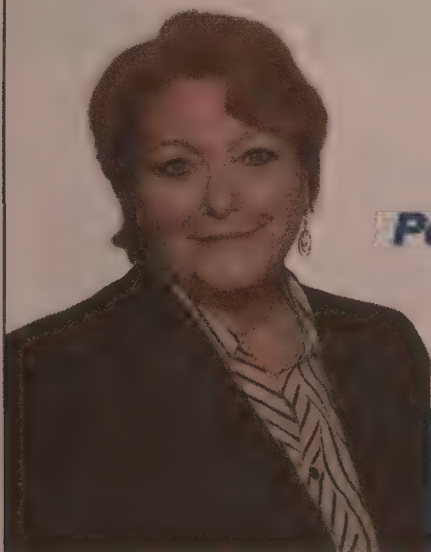
Our reporter T. J. Clemente reports above on much that Penny has done. But he does not write about the recent history. Penny, in just the last five years, was responsible for the restoration of preserved land that some very prominent citizens did things to that appeared to Penny to be in violation of town laws. Billionaire Rob Baron built a retaining wall through 3,000 year old dunes on his property. Larry Penny insisted he remove it. P. Diddy took down some native vegetation and Penny, citing wetlands laws, caused these plants to be restored to how they had been before.

Penny's work in this town has been steady, remarkable and extraordinary. He does not deserve what the town and its supervisor are doing to him, in my opinion.

— Dan Rattiner

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# Who's Here

By Kelly Laffey

A number of years ago, back when the East End actually got snow in December, Sag Harbor resident Richard Jefferson Sawyer would dress up as Frosty the Snowman and clear the village's sidewalks with his personal snow blower. His greatest reward for his helpful antics was hearing someone say "thank you."

Sawyer is a Vietnam veteran, and the two-word phrase is a powerful one. As such, it's become his mantra as he looks to help all those who have served this country by raising awareness of the deep, personal sacrifices of war and, in particular, post-traumatic stress disorder.

Sawyer's latest project is creating notecards with his personal poetry that he hopes the National September 11 Memorial and Museum will give to people who makes donations. He wants the cards to help people to reflect on the importance of their donation.

Sawyer has designed two specific notecards for this cause. The first depicts an image of the Twin Towers taken on the morning of September 11, prior to the attacks. With the sun shining through the gap between the two buildings, a brilliant cross is formed. Sawyer's poem honors all who lost their lives in the attacks, "They were heroes, all of them/ From janitors to CEOs/ They were all—Americans/ Dressed in different clothes."

The second card contains a story of Sawyer's experience on September 11. Shortly after hearing about the attacks, Sawyer, deep in thought, went for a walk in Sag Harbor and, to his shock and horror, discovered an American flag discarded in a garbage can. Removing Old Glory from her metal coffin, Sawyer took the flag to the tailor and dry cleaner to have her repaired, and she now hangs in front of his home.

"I like to think that I was symbolically helping to save my country, which was so viciously under attack," says Sawyer about the significant timing of his find.

The idea for the September 11 cards, however, was born out of an earlier exercise in spreading awareness for the plight of returning soldiers. Born in Boston and a graduate of Long Island's Freeport High School, Sawyer was attending Nassau Community College when he was drafted into the Vietnam War.

In an attempt to avoid deployment into Vietnam's jungles, Sawyer decided to prolong his training in the United States, and so he signed up for a 90-day non-commissioned officer school in Fort Benning, Georgia, and then subsequently entered a 90-day specialized



## Richard Sawyer

### *Vietnam Veteran American Hero*

program to be in the K-9 Corps. The move to stay in the U.S. proved to be a double-edged sword, as Sawyer was in high demand once he finished his training. He was sent to Vietnam as a walking point—Sawyer and his dog would scout out the enemy territory ahead of the infantry for possible signs of the enemy.

"The experience changed me mentally," says Sawyer. "I used to be very easygoing, but after I came home, nothing could be done fast enough. I talked fast. I was very impatient. And I had a temper."

Eventually, Sawyer was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), a mental condition that afflicts about 30% of Vietnam veterans and between 11 and 20% of veterans in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

Sawyer, however, prefers to refer to his

condition as "soldier's heart," a term that he came across while reading his alumni bulletin from the private Stony Brook School. Coined by a Stony Brook University professor who fought in World War II and, soon after, experienced what most would call a nervous breakdown, "soldier's heart" succinctly described what Sawyer felt upon returning home from Vietnam.

But, laments Sawyer, little is done to help soldiers impacted by PTSD. Motivated by a deep appreciation and understanding of what veterans endure both during combat and upon returning home, Sawyer turned to poetry to express his complex sentiments.

"His heart, though wounded, continues to beat./ Going through life on wandering feet./ In search of a cure which will help him endure/ The pain he feels inside," reads a portion of the Soldier's Heart card.

Sawyer has since created numerous notecards to spread awareness of a variety of issues, and he gives them to customers of his Sag Harbor-based tree-cutting business, Treely Yours. Recently, his cards have gained a modicum of fame on the East End, as the Sag Harbor Whaling Museum and a solar installation company in Bridgehampton have both asked if they could to give them to their customers as well.

Sawyer's primary focus, however, remains helping returning soldiers. He hopes to create a life-size Soldier's Heart PTSD memorial in East Meadow's Eisenhower Park. Shelter Island sculptor Jerry Glassberg has created a preliminary, 13-inch model, and Sawyer is working to have a full-scale monument erected in the near future.

Sawyer asked Glassberg to become a part of the project after a particularly moving experience on Shelter Island. While biking, Sawyer came across a clearing in the woods and noticed people sitting in silence. He decided to join them.

"I was getting in touch with nature," recalls Sawyer, something, he quickly realized, he had never been able to do, while in Vietnam, the sounds of gunfire always dominated his senses.

After 20 minutes of silence, local psychiatrist Dr. George Nicklin got up to share his thoughts on war. Sawyer approached him at the end of the service and, upon disclosing that he had fought in Vietnam, Nicklin thanked him for his service.

Moved by his words, Sawyer recalled that "It was the first time anyone had ever thanked me."

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# South O' the Highway (and the North too)

(continued from page 18)

signed books at the Amaryllis Farm Equine Rescue in Sagaponack recently.

*\* \* \**  
 Dan's Papers C.E.O. **Bob Edelman** and Editor-in-Chief **Dan Rattiner** announced at the Dan's Papers holiday dinner at Rumba in Hampton Bays that Senior Editor **Elise D'Haene** is leaving her position to return to her creative work. D'Haene is a novelist and screenwriter, famously penning many of the episodes of the hugely popular Showtime series "Red Shoe Diaries." (Rumor has it a major movie deal is in the works.) Sections Editor **Stacy Dermont** will take over as Senior Editor and Dan's Papers welcomes **Kelly Laffey**, recently of Fox Sports, to the Sections Editor desk. Laffey started off strong—by participating in Southampton's Polar Bear Plunge on December 10. Whew!

*\* \* \**  
**Bonnie and Vincent Ponte** who own a home in Water Mill will host a Valentine's Day party fundraiser at their Tribeca restaurant, Ponte's, on Wednesday, February 8 to benefit the Max Cure Foundation, a pediatric cancer foundation. Celebrity DJ **Vashtie** will spin.

*\* \* \**  
**John Brady** has joined the staff of Nest Seekers International's East Hampton office. Brady specializes in distressed properties, and as he closes on over 50 home sales per year, he is by far the leading person in the field in New York. As we all know, The Hamptons are not immune to short sales.

*\* \* \**  
 East Enders are hitting the airwaves in a radio play of *A Christmas Carol*. The program, which airs on PBS/88.3 FM, was initiated by radio station host and producer **Bonnie Grice**, and directed by Southampton drama teacher **Michael Disher**. The play can be heard December 16 at 7 p.m., December 23 at 11 a.m., December 24 at 4 p.m., and December 25 at noon. It's also available at [peconicpublicbroadcasting.org](http://peconicpublicbroadcasting.org).

*\* \* \**  
 Amagansett residents **Sarah Jessica Parker** and **Matthew Broderick** attended the premiere of Parker's latest movie, *New Year's Eve*, at the Ziegfeld Theatre in New York City last week. Broderick has a cameo role and Hamptons neighbor **Jon Bon Jovi** co-stars in the film. See our review on page 52.

*\* \* \**  
 North Haven's **Jimmy Buffett** was honored at the Child Mind Institute's annual gala in New York City last Thursday. Water Mill's **Matt Lauer** introduced the singer's surprise performance. The event raised more than \$5 million for the organization, which strives to provide mental health care to children around the world.

After being asked to de-board a plane due

(continued on page 38)



# Wines & Spirits

\*Not responsible for typographical errors.

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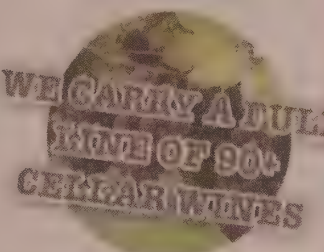
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# Winter (continued from page 23)

not the same as the real thing, which is the Vitamin D we get from sunshine.

Be sure to go out into the sunshine every day when there's only these few hours the sun is up there. The doctors tell us we should get 20 minutes out in the sun every day, but this time of year it should be about double that. The reason is that the earth, with its wandering, is way out on its elliptical, so the rays of the sun are weaker. Also, for some reason, the sun doesn't get way overhead. It rises on the horizon, then putters up just a little, messes around way off to one side there trying to send stuff through the haze of the atmosphere and then, exhausted, sinks back down into the darkness. Really you should try to get 60 or

even 80 minutes of sunshine Vitamin D this time of year. Maybe even the whole two and a half hours it is up.

Doctors tell us that if you don't get enough Vitamin D, you get the following symptoms: muscle weakness, hypertension, pain in your bones and cognitive impairment and if you get all that come upon you—pain, nervousness, weakness and dumbness—it can make you feel like you want to just kill yourself.

Indeed, in many countries where the lack of sunshine in the winter is even more severe than here— Iceland, Finland, Siberia—there is a very high rate of suicide as people get all depressed, think oh what's the use and then the hell with it. Many say these suicide rates

would be even higher if it weren't for the stupid symptom. Being unable to figure out how to kill yourself may lead to a longer life span, but it also leads to frustration. You just can't win.

I don't know if you know this or not, but there's a small town in the Italian Alps that sits on the side of a mountain so steep it doesn't get any sunshine at all, summer, fall, winter or spring and never has. People living in this town did get the symptoms of Vitamin D deficiencies, but it wasn't all that bad, apparently, because having never been out in the sunshine they didn't know what they were missing.

What the researchers did find, however, was that they played really sad music. Their music consisted of dirges, funeral marches, the blues, "my woman done left me" laments and other songs so awful that during the time the studies were being done those doing them just cried and cried.

About 20 years ago, though, the government of Italy got a great idea to help the people living in this town. Using a series of mirrors, they got the sunshine on the other side of the mountain to reflect its way around to the town of Viganella, (look this up, you'll see I'm not making this up,) so now Viganella is bathed in this reflected sunlight all the time.

Oddly, however, this mirrored contraption had the opposite effect of what was intended. Where before they had only light symptoms because they didn't know what they were missing, now they had really bad symptoms because they knew what they were missing and they knew this was just a fake.

However, their songs are now all upbeat. They sing "You Are My Sunshine," they sing "Smile Darn Ya Smile" and they sing "Grab Your Coat and Get Your Hat and Leave Your Worries On the Doorstep" and "Just Direct Your Feet to the Sunny Side of the Street." They also seem to have fallen in love with the movies of Will Farrell.

I don't know why I'm telling you all this. Maybe its just that with Global Warming, Rising Sea Levels, Wild Weather and the problems with the Euro, I thought that just having one more thing we can't fix to worry about might diffuse some of the sadness.

Also, it's getting dark now, so I have to put my pen and paper away while I can still find the drawer into which to put them.

Just remember this. After December 22, we turn the corner. By Christmas day, you should have a good forty seconds more of sunshine, and by New Years a further minute and fifty five. It only gets better and better after that. So just put on those Happy Feet, sing a few verses of "Pack Up Your Troubles in an Old Kit Bag" and "Smile, Smile Smile," and tap dance your way along thinking about the glories of next summer.

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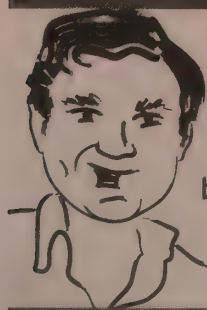
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## TWENTY SOMETHING

by David Lion Rattiner

**I was on the Hampton Jitney last Sunday coming back home and following the Broncos vs. Bears football game in overtime on my iPhone.**

Ever since Broncos' QB Tim Tebow beat the New York Jets (my favorite team) in a 95-yard rushing drive with less than three minutes left in the game, I've become a big fan of the polarizing quarterback.

What I like most about Tebow is that he takes a lot of criticism in stride. He's unapologetically religious, and I respect that, and although he's a terrible thrower, the young man can run like lightening down the field.

On the bus, there is a rule that you can't use your cellphone for more than three minutes and only for emergencies, but this was overtime and the Broncos had just recovered a fumble, as far as I was concerned **THIS WAS AN EMERGENCY.**

I called up fellow *Dan's Papers* writer T.J. Clemente, who was watching the game. "T.J.," I whispered, "I'm on the bus and can't talk, can you put your cellphone up to the television so I can hear what's happening?"

"No problem."

I slunk down into my seat and hid my cellphone. It was overtime, and the Broncos had the ball at their own 33-yard line after a seemingly impossible fumble recovery. I couldn't help but think that this turn of events had something to do with Tebow and his unquestionable belief. I think that we all think

that when we watch this kid play. Whenever he gets a break like this, it's hard to not think about a man upstairs looking out for him. I don't want to get into my personal beliefs here, but you know that you are thinking it.

Anyway, Tebow drove the Broncos down the field and got them within field goal range. The Broncos' kicker Matt Prater had a 51-yard boot, and nailed it. The Broncos won. I can't believe it!

**"THE BRONCOS WON!"**

I shouted on the Hampton Jitney.

Yep, I was that guy.

I got looks all around, and then got one head nod from a guy sitting about three rows back from me.

When I got home I watched some of the postgame interviews. When asked how the Broncos were once again able to pull off such

an incredible win, Tebow responded with "If you believe, then unbelievable things can sometimes be possible."

I thought that was a pretty good message. You got to believe. Believing, in itself, is a very powerful thing. I think believing is what it's all about.

I'm getting philosophical here, but Tebow pulls it out of me. The magic just seems to continue.

It was just such a great week for NFL fans last week and the NFL is what keeps me sane in the Hamptons this time of year. The New York Jets beat the Chiefs 37 to 10 and now are in control of their playoff chances. Mark Sanchez and Rex Ryan finally looked like the football team that New York deserves.

God I'm going to be depressed when the season ends this year. Enjoy it while it lasts!

## ⚡ Breaking News ⚡

A BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS WISH



John Dillon at work.

By Stacy Dermont

The staff of John Dillon Salon and Day Spa in Southampton approached *Dan's Papers* with an offer. A free Day of Beauty for a deserving person.

John, Angelina, Nadine, Evelin, Victoria and Bobbie recognize that in these economic times—even in the Hamptons—some people are struggling.

John Dillon and staff want to give back by making someone's day brighter and more beautiful with a free blowout, manicure, pedicure, facial and makeup application. Plus a kit of John Dillon's custom makeup.

It could be a man or a woman who benefits from this special day. Many of John Dillon's current clients are men.

(continued on next page)

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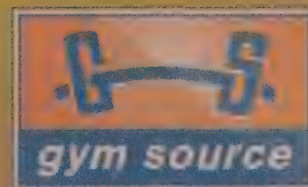
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# Polar

(continued on page 23)

David Lion Ratimer



Many brave "polar bears" took the plunge to benefit Human Resources of the Hamptons last Saturday morning.



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waved a flag while standing on top of the lifeguard tower at the beach, the entire crowd raced into the water as everybody screamed at the top of their lungs.

But due to the warmer weather, I noticed that there were actually a significant amount of plungers who were willing to stay in the water for a little bit of a swim. Well over 100 people were swimming around in the water for a solid five minutes or more after most had jumped in and then quickly jumped out.

Perhaps it was their warm bellies that kept them from being cold. Keith Davis, the owner of the Golden Pear, was at the event handing out hot soup to plungers inside the food shack that sits at the entrance to Coopers Beach. The shack doubled as the official Polar Bear headquarters. There were other free hot drinks provided by other vendors as well, along with some bagels wrapped in plastic.

All along the beach were dogs attached to leashes barking and playing with each other as dog owners took the opportunity to enjoy the spectacle. Without a doubt, there were more spectators than there were plungers this year.

All in all, it was a very successful plunge this year. As plungers shook off the cold and snuggled up into their towels to get warm, some were doing push-ups to get their heart rate up. The beach cleared pretty quickly once the plunge was over. It transformed back to a December beach in the Hamptons.

## Wish

(continued from previous page)

So now *Dan's Papers* is reaching out to you, dear readers. Share a story about someone you know who needs a lift, e-mail it to: [adinfo@danspapers.com](mailto:adinfo@danspapers.com). Someone in need of a day of pampering might be an overworked mom, an unemployed dad or someone in recovery.

The stories you submit may be posted on our website—include first names only, please. You may submit stories through December 31, 2011.

Our on-line readers will then vote to determine the winning entry. Facialist Angelina Daraio-Hays says, "John Dillon Salon and Day Spa will be happy to give this gift of beauty to whomever is the winner. Maybe someone who is ill, or a single parent who is struggling, or someone who gives so much to so many people and never expects anything in return."

If you, or your business, would like to contribute an additional gift or service to this neighborly project, send an e-mail to [adinfo@danspapers.com](mailto:adinfo@danspapers.com). Together we can make wishes come true!





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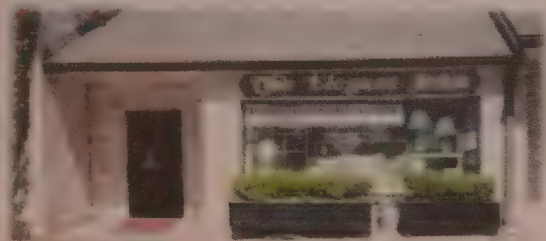
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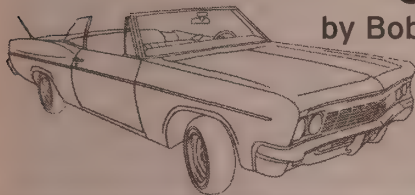


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## CLASSIC CARS

by Bob Gelber



The first snowflakes have yet to fall, the summer crowds are gone and it's smooth driving on the East End. While we're daydreaming about miles of open roads, we should all give thanks to the car in which we learned to drive. You know, the machine that started it all. For me, it was my parents' 1953 Plymouth Cranbrook station wagon with a stick shift. Even though it was not as "country gentlemen" sexy looking as a Ford Country Squire woody wagon, to me, it was beautiful and my first car love.

We should all give thanks to the 1903 Model T Ford. This was the first affordable car that put America on wheels. It was a simple and dependable machine that was designed to be driven on American dirt roads that even horse and carriages had trouble traversing. It was truly a machine for the times and became the most popular motorcar ever sold. Eventually you could purchase a new Model T for only \$295! You did good, Henry.

A toast to Detroit and all the automobiles they built in the '20s, '30s, and '40s that helped establish America's reputation as the world's leading innovator in automobile design

and production. The low-priced, entry-level cars that were built by Ford, General Motors and Chrysler were the best built and finest motor cars for the money that could be had anywhere in the world. At the other end of the financial spectrum, top Packard, Lincoln, Chrysler, Duesenberg, and Cadillac models competed with cars like Rolls Royce for build quality and technical excellence.

Let's give thanks for the Clown Cars, you know the cars that really don't visually fit into the mainstream because of their strange shapes or size. Cars that were made fun of at first, but in many cases became the most popular and beloved cars of all time. First on the list has to be the humble Volkswagen Beetle. Certainly odd looking when it first appeared in 1936, touted as a German "peoples' car." For what people, martians? After World War II, Henry Ford was even offered the Volkswagen factory to manufacture the VW, but he refused, saying, in essence, "It's so weird, who would buy that thing?" Henry, what a mistake!

The French Citroen 2CV is certainly a bizarre piece of automotive design. So strange looking, it actually makes the Volkswagen appear almost normal in comparison. Originally built for French farmers, it was a masterpiece of minimalist engineering. The windshield wipers ran off the speedometer cable. The 2CV was in production for several decades and was Citroen's best-selling automobile ever.



Holiday drive down Memory Lane...

The original British Mini certainly belongs on this list. Cute as a button and considerably smaller than the newer retro Mini, which is commonplace on American highways today. Like the French 2CV, it was not loved when it first appeared, but eventually it caught on. to the mainstream. What helped its popularity, was a fellow named John Cooper who hot-rodded the little beastly and started winning races with the thing. The Mini-Coopers, as they were then called, went

on to win the grueling Monte Carlo Rallye twice, beating much more powerful cars. Truly eye-opening performances.

The original Italian Fiat 500 is a lot like the original Mini, smaller than the new retro model and, in Abarth modified form, a race winner. The reason I give thanks to all these basic automobiles is that they all have taught us that sometimes small, clever and basic can be fun. These types of cars can also be very economical on gas and cheap to purchase.

Have a great holiday feast with the family but take it easy on the goose, sweet potatoes, stuffing and fresh-baked cookies. Just pretend your whole family has to squeeze into a Mini-Cooper after dinner to get home.

Bob Gelber is an automotive journalist who has lived in the Hamptons for over 30 years. He often can be seen on television talking about his favorite subject, automobiles. He can be reached at [bobgelber@aol.com](mailto:bobgelber@aol.com).

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# THE HAMPTON SUBWAY NEWSLETTER

"Along with the New York Subway System, Hampton's Subway is the only underground transit system in the State of New York."



Week of December 17-23, 2011

Riders this week: 11,411  
Rider miles this week: 96,812

## DOWN IN THE TUBE

On Wednesday this past week, NOT down in the tube, was Old Man McGumbus. At first we thought something had happened to him. Old Man McGumbus is one of the regulars on the train, riding from the Springs station to the Bridgehampton station every morning at 10 a.m. to go shopping there at King Kullen, then returning down to the Bridgehampton station loaded with shopping bags at noon. When he did not board at 10 a.m. at the Springs station, Motorman Fred Friendly on that train became alarmed. He called in a report to our offices in Hampton Bays. We went on the alert. But then McGumbus showed up at the station at 11 a.m. saying he had overslept. He sat in his usual spot, in the front car behind the motorman, and got on the train for the return trip at 1 p.m. instead of noon. He carried with him his antique Revolutionary War musket as he always does. (McGumbus is the only man allowed to carry a weapon on the train.)

## DOG NAMED FLUFFY LOOSE

The subway system owns seven German

Shepherds that patrol the barbed wired fence that is the perimeter of the Montauk Yards where the subway cars spend every night. The dogs and the fence are there to keep graffiti painters at bay. Somehow, last Tuesday afternoon, one of them, a 4-year-old male named Fluffy, went missing. We believe he is in the Montauk community somewhere. If you see him, a black and brown German Shepard who bares his teeth and growls when his name is called, please call our Hampton Bays office and let us know his whereabouts. Under no circumstances try to approach him or round him up yourself.

## CHRISTMAS SAVINGS

This year, instead of having one Christmas tree at each of our 14 platforms, we are only going to have one tree, which will, as each day progresses, be taken from platform to platform. How it will work is that the tree will be put on a train heading out of Montauk at 7 a.m., be taken out and shown at the Amagansett platform between 7:15 and 7:30 a.m., then put on the next train behind and taken to the East Hampton station for another 15-minute showing. The tree will thus be shown on all 14 platforms in three and a half hours at which point it will be back in Montauk. It will be accompanied by Santa Claus of course, who

will have the job of taking the tree off the train and then putting it back onto the next train for all of Christmas day. Hope you get a chance to see it.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAC!!

Mac McPherson, the second in command of our Homeland Security Subway Division X-ray Bomb Unit, turns 39 on Friday. He works that day so he will not be attending the birthday party for him in the cafeteria in Hampton Bays that afternoon. You know the rules. Neither rain nor sleet nor snow or storm will delay the duties of the Homeland Security Subway Division X-ray Bomb Unit. Happy happy Mac, and many more.

## COMMISSIONER ASPINALL'S MESSAGE

The Hampton Subway Board of Directors last Friday voted 3-2 to require that all employees of the subway, except for me the commissioner, absorb an 8% pay cut for the next year regardless of whether or not they are in the union. These are hard times.

As for me, it's bonus time. I work on a profit scheme, which requires that a bonus be paid to me by the percentage the price of the stock of Hampton Subway goes up from last December to this December. Although profitability of the system has been about what it was, Hampton Subway this past March bought back two million shares that were, along with the other millions and millions of shares, owned, until then, by the general public. With the completion of this buyback, there was a 10% increase in the value of the stock because there

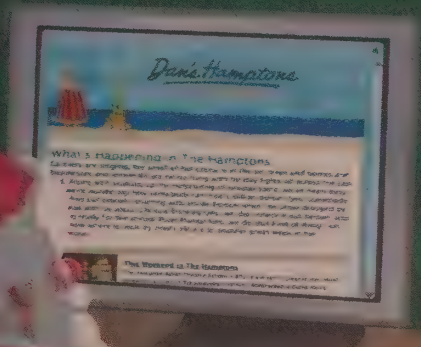
(continued on page 39)

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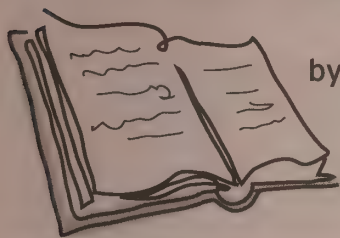
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## BY THE BOOK



by Joan Baum

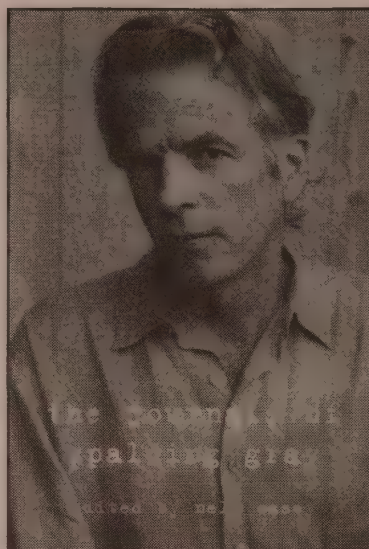
It's titled *The Journals of Spalding Gray* (Knopf) but could have as easily been called *The Diaries*, *The Notebooks* or *The Memoirs* because all these genres run together in editor Nell Casey's intelligent, sensitive and extensively annotated account of Gray, whom she refers to as "possibly the most celebrated neurotic of our time" and "our preeminent theatrical confessor." In going through "more than 5,000 pages of private writing," not counting transcribed audio and videotapes, Casey decided to present *The Journals*, not as biography, but as "a more complete sense of Gray's story, from his point of view." That decision meant leaving out critical "counter-perspectives," though some might say that amid all the anguished self-deprecation here, at times funny, most times not, Gray co-opted that role as well.

*The Journals* is structured chronologically and is centered on Gray's relationship with the three main women in his life. The book clearly show his awareness of the differences between an autobiographical persona (his performances) and autobiography (what he writes about himself that he feels is true). The problem is that if one thinks of "truth" in the sense of the

familiar expression "the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth," *The Journals* doesn't fully deliver. Casey knows that. So does Gray, as he tortures himself in these pages over the charge leveled at him by his long-time lover, colleague and first wife, Renée Shafransky who said he was "CONFESSIONAL BUT NOT HONEST."

In her introduction, Casey notes that the book has been edited to some extent in accordance with the wishes of Gray's widow, Kathie Russo (in a few places names have also been changed). Russo had approached her about writing a biography and offered to let her see "raw material" that would deepen "the shadow story" of Gray's life and death. Interested, no doubt, in protecting her husband's legacy for his sake as well as that of their children, Russo does allow that it's not clear as to whether Gray would have wanted these private, agonized ruminations to see the light of day. As Casey notes, however, in a few spots Gray pointedly addresses a reader ("you"). This issue, as literary executors well know, is hardly peculiar to Gray, but the larger—and more important—question has to do with what publication brings that was hitherto unknown or under-appreciated.

*The Journals* underscores how artfully Gray mined his life, turning its wrenching miseries and comic absurdities and shrewd, sometimes cruel, observations of others into theatre. They also provide an insider's view of the Avant-garde theatre scene of the '60s, '70s and '80s and confirm the extensive acting experience behind the making of monologues of apparent spontaneity. Although the highpoint of Gray's acting career remains *Swimming to Cambodia* (1983-84)—the innovative monologues he delivered about the time he was working in Roland Joffé's *The Killing Fields* (made into a popular film by Jonathan Demme in 1987)—



Gray's solo performances were honed by a passionate dedication to theatre that extended for close to 40 years, and by a gift for writing for an audience who would see their story in his.

Gray's work, as Casey writes, "transformed the theatre world, creating an autobiographical genre that has since been so widely replicated it is hard to imagine the daring it took to come first." As the book's impressive references show, however, this assessment is hardly new. The overriding question for the reader, therefore, seems to be this: are more revealing glimpses

into Gray's troubled soul and more evidence of his managed exploitation of them as theatre worth 340 pages? The question is worth considering, especially in light of the last and odd, seemingly unrepresentative, quotation in the book. It is from 1970: "I began to realize I was acting [no pun intended] as though the

(continued on page 40)

## North Fork

(continued from page 24)

the town of Riverhead.

Riverhead, being not on the North Fork, of course, gets a pass.

So where are we here?

I think the sacrificial village will be either Laurel, Peconic, one or the other of the Jamesports, or Northville.

What do you think? I ask that you decide. Vote for one of these three, or any of the other 10, at danshamptons.com. Let me know what you think.

Meanwhile, next week, I'll tell you how Montauk, most recently, got swallowed up by the Hamptons on the South Fork, without so much as a peep of protest out of the Montaukers.

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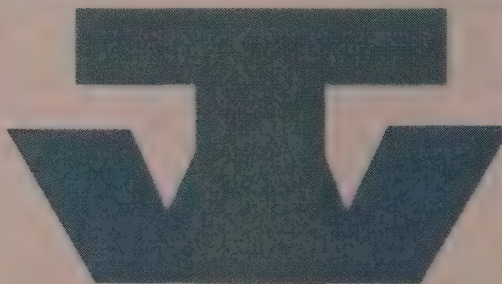
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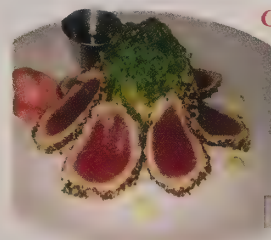
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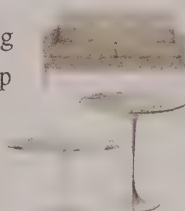
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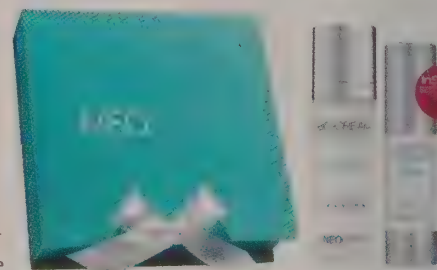
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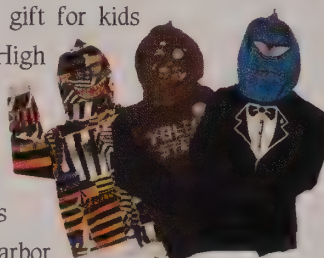
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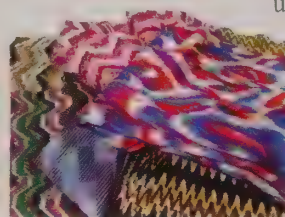


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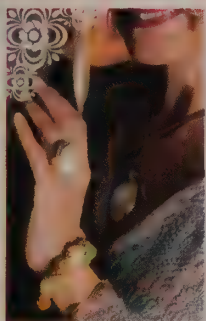


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# It's a Wonderful Village





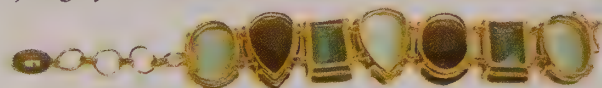
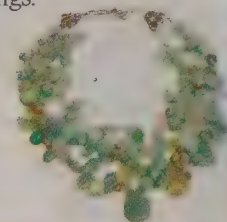
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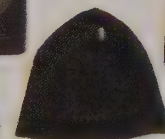
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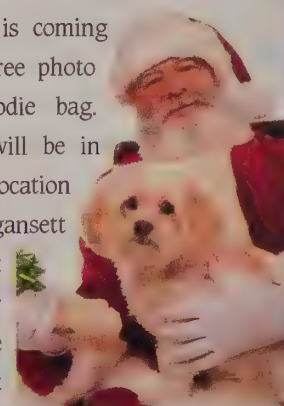
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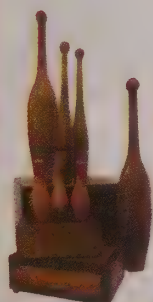
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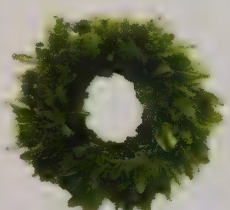


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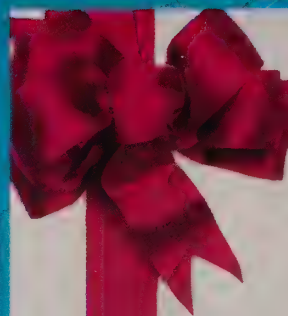


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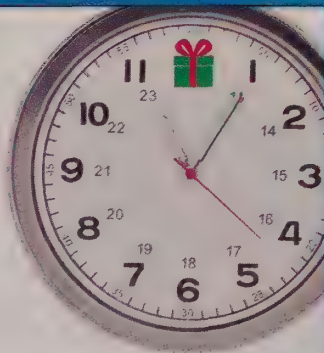
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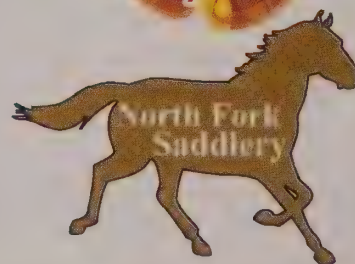
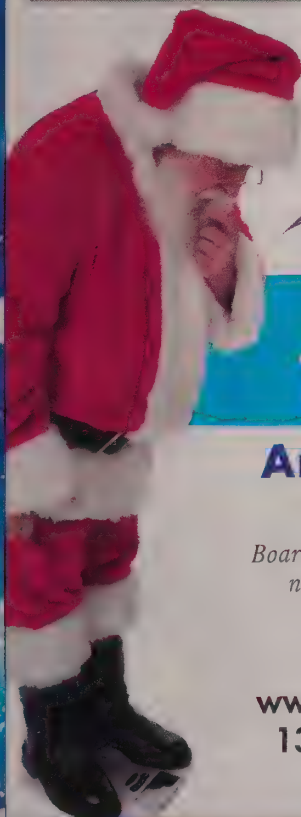


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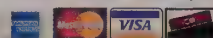
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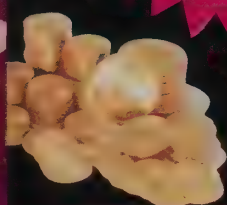
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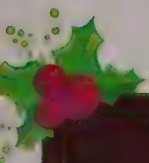


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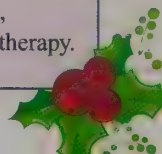
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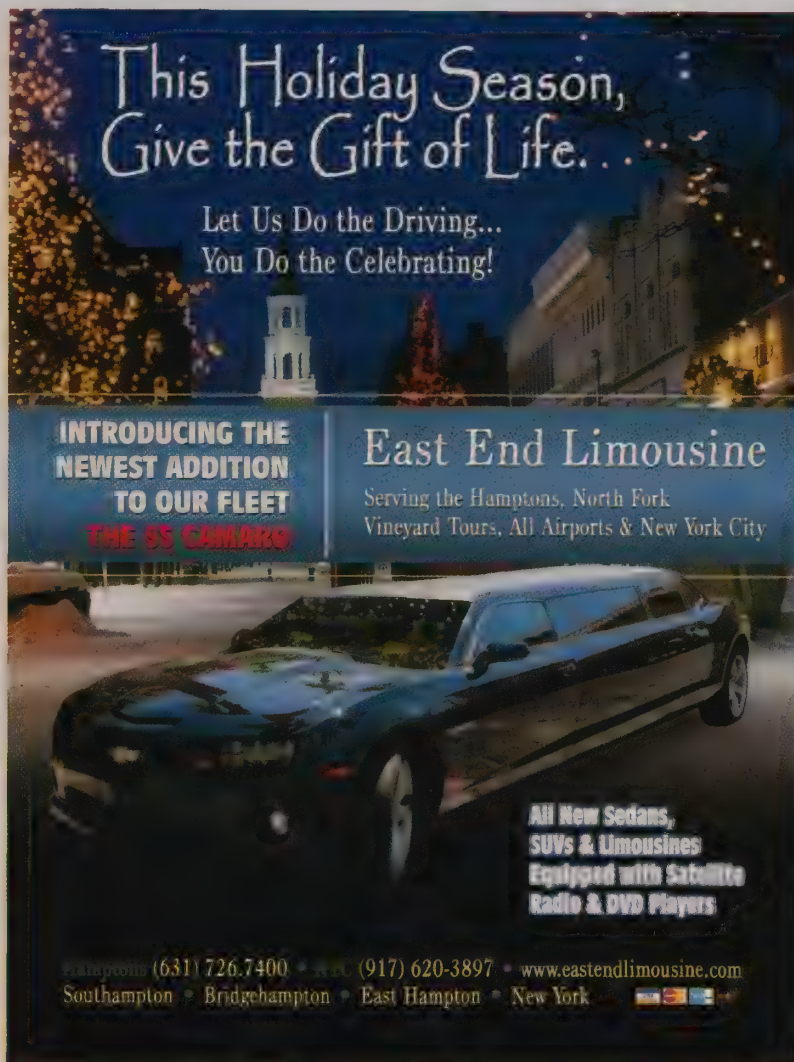
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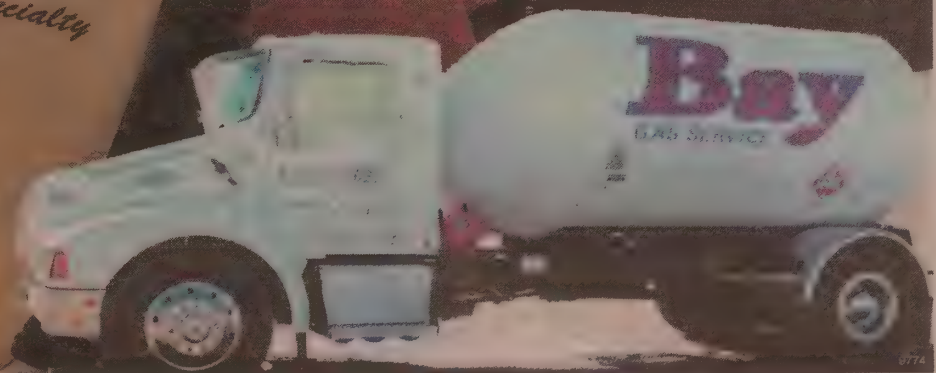


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## South O (continued from page 28)

to inappropriate conduct, Amagansett's **Alec Baldwin** poked fun at American Airlines in a "Saturday Night Live" skit last weekend.

Sag Harbor's **Billy Joel** will be named a Steinway Artist later this month, becoming the first pop artist ever to join the famed Steinway Hall.

East Hampton resident **Ralph Lauren** has designed the American team's official uniforms for the 2012 Olympics in London. The vintage-inspired look is done in red, white, and blue, and includes clothing, accessories, luggage and beach towels.

South Forker **Nora Ephron** attended the Kennedy Center Honors last week to praise honoree **Meryl Streep**. Ephron warned **Secretary of State Hillary Clinton**, who attended, "It's inevitable. Someday you will see

her in a movie about your life and discover the truth that she is better at being you than you are."

East Hampton's **Martha Stewart** received an early holiday gift when **J.C. Penney** bought a 16.6% stake in Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia for \$38.5 million. The purchase begins a 10-year partnership that will include the development of Martha Stewart mini-shops in J.C. Penney stores around the country.

Is **Hello Kitty** coming to the Hamptons? According to Haute PR CEO and "Millionaire Matchmaker" client **Robin Kassner**, absolutely. In a "Matchmaker" episode that aired last week, the young exec announced plans to build the first cartoon kitty-themed home in America—in Southampton. Expect to see pink next spring.

Hampton Bays resident **Chet Sinclair** was recently awarded a Medal of Honor from the French government for his service in World War II. Sinclair was a rifleman in the U.S. Army's 90th Division. The ceremony was hosted by the French consulate for New York.

Many diners agree with **Rocco DiSpirito** that the *Buche de Noel* at **Pierre's** in Bridgehampton is the best thing they ever ate!

Stylist **Marc Zowine** popped into the Candy Kitchen in Bridgehampton on Friday for some ice cream—he said he was feeling feverish and the ice cream did the trick.

Dan's Papers own **Patrick Christiano** is currently playing **Truman Capote** in the Jacksonville Beach Players by the Sea production of *Tru* in Florida.

## Sawyer (continued from page 27)

He soon realized that a simple thank you is all that a soldier wants. He doesn't want any special treatment—simple recognition of the sacrifices he and his comrades made for this country is enough.

Sawyer recalls contacting Glassberg after reading a story about how the artist created a bust of Dr. Nicklin.

A man with an incredible energy, Sawyer's

journey through life has been marked by fascinating experiences. And he hopes that his empathy and persistence will ultimately benefit those who endure his pain.

Sawyer secretly wishes that someone would coax him or, rather, "Frosty," out of his retirement, as he genuinely misses the smiles that greeted his character as he strutted down Main Street. But, for now, he is answering to

a higher cause. And it is his tireless efforts to better the lives of vets that deserve the ultimate "thank you."

*Sawyer hopes that those who read this story will be moved to action. Donations to the 9/11 Memorial can be mailed to One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006; [www.911Memorial.org](http://www.911Memorial.org).*

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### EAST HAMPTON

Shaun Woodward to 33 HBTP LLC, 33 Highway Behind The Pond Lane **16,750,000**  
Joanne & Walter Patrick to Michael G. Blasek, 36 Pitkin Lane **5,800,000**

### MONTAUK

Karol & William Pickel to Drexler Family Trust, 100 West Lake Drive **1,300,000**  
Hillary L. Barry to Sam Zarou, 35 Surfside Avenue **1,225,000**

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\*\*\*\*\* Sales Of Not Quite A Million During This Period \*\*\*\*\*

### EAST QUOGUE

Regina A. Hibner to Christian Mir, 20 Sunset Avenue **920,000**  
Gregory Florentino (Referee) to Bank of New York, 10 Bonita Rd **594,428**

### GREENPORT

Donald & Virginia Markarian to Stephen Torkelsen, 19 Stirling Cove **620,000**

### MONTAUK

Capital One to Fred & Linda Aaronsen, 152 Greenwich Street, **570,000**

### REMSENBURG

Stephen Bichler to Beth S. Rubin, 15 Sandys Lane, **690,000**

### SAG HARBOR

Helen Winship to 18 Hampton Street LLC, 18 Hampton Street, **525,000**

\*\*\*\*\*

## SMALL DEAL OF THE WEEK

### RIVERHEAD

NF Management Inc to  
Eastern Property Investor  
Consultants LLC,  
40 Peconic Ave

**550,000**

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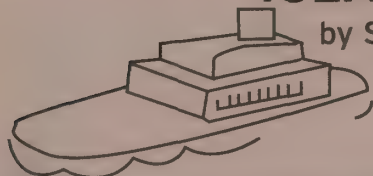
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# THE SHELTERED ISLANDER

by Sally Flynn



## The 12 Movies of Christmas

As part of the holidays, I have a ritual of viewing all the classic Christmas films. I try to be open-minded to new Christmas films in the hopes of adding to my holiday viewing list. So far my assessment is, although the newer movies have better production values and have cost small fortunes to make, apparently all the writers have been edited to death to produce the absolute blandest and broadest-appeal movies to benefit the sponsors.

Here's my viewing schedule: I always watch *Miracle on 34th Street* as my first Christmas movie. The movie starts with the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, so I watch it after the live Thanksgiving Day Parade. You can watch it in black and white, or color. There are several updated versions of *Miracle*, but I find all the writing to be too schmaltzy and trite. I know it's not the writers, because there can't be that many lousy writers. I know their scripts have been hacked to accommodate what the sponsors want; which is to include everyone, offend no one, and maintain political correctness at all times.

Next I watch the first-filmed *A Christmas*

*Carol* from 1938 starring Reginald Owen. Each Christmas *Carol* movie seems to differ slightly from one another. Next is the definitive *Christmas Carol* that we all love with Alastair Sims from 1951. This remains the best of the lot. It doesn't matter if you see it in black and white or color, it looks the same either way. Industrial England in the winter didn't have any colors. It was all black, white and grey. Color only shows up at the end on Bess' dress.

Since 1951 there have been many versions of *A Christmas Carol*, but I can only recommend three. In 1970, Albert Finney did a musical version, which I rank right up there with the Alastair Sims classic, if you haven't seen it, try it, it's wonderful. George C. Scott did an excellent version. Patrick Stewart gave it a go, his Scrooge was fair, but I'd stick with Sims or Scott. Other than these few exceptions, none of the newer versions measure up. I think it's just lame to try to interpret this story with a female Scrooge, or set it in a modern setting. Actors struggle with dialog that tries to be most profound than the original.

I have discussed the problem of the newer Christmas movies with some passionate movie lovers on the Island and the consensus is this: Hollywood often fails to realize that nothing can improve the original. You can't remake *Gone With the Wind*, *Casablanca*, *Wizard of Oz* or the Alastair Sims *Christmas Carol*. The



Miracle on Shelter Island?

Shelter Island Library shows films, and I know they get a good turn out for classics. Great movies make you want to talk about them and keep enjoying them long after you see "The End."

There's just one new movie I like seeing now. I can't recall the title because these days I have to look at my driver's license to be sure of my own name. It's about a single mother returning home one winter to the small island she was raised on, where she finds that time has nearly stood still. She finds a job, falls in love, the kids are

happy, and they all live happily ever after on the tiny island—I think it's off the coast of Maine because I remember lobster signs in the background. Seems like such a typical story, I can't imagine why I like it. Oh, wait—lobsters—they all got lobsters at cost from incoming boats, yup, that's it, lobster. Never did met a lobster I didn't like.

## Subway (continued from page 35)

were 10% fewer shares to divide the value of the company up into. My bonus therefore was 10% of something, I am not sure how to figure all this out, but what I do know is that me and the wife will be off for the Christmas holiday week to Abu Dabi to climb that tall building they have there. No sense hanging around here where everybody is so depressed.

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# Santa

(continued from page 22)

store, CittaNuova Café, Babette's and then on to Bucket's Deli where, I thought, as we had done last year, we would end and disassemble.

But we didn't end there. There was more. We turned left onto Race Lane, guided by traffic police officers and passed the dozen or so day laborers looking for work while sitting on the split rail fence of the town railroad station, (two waved) then turned left onto Lumber Lane to go down to the YMCA building, where the parade line did finally end. We hopped down from our float and milled around briefly, joining everyone talking to one another about the events of the past half hour.

A man carrying a three-year-old boy came over to me. The boy handed me an envelope.

"For you," the man said.

"Thank you."

I shoved it into the pocket of my Santa suit. An entire gaggle of elves, red rouge on their cheeks under green and white elf caps, came running over to me to shake my hand or just touch the hem of my red Santa jacket.

I saw the big box truck with EMERGENCY on the side and saw that inside, a police officer was waving me over. He was there, as I had been told he would be, to take me down to the Hunting Inn to meet my fans. I climbed up and in.

Two motorcycle policemen in full battle regalia now pulled noisily in front of us on their motorcycles and the officer in the truck started his engine.

"We'll get you there safely," he said.

Now we headed down the parade route the other way, me and my entourage, and I did wave again to some of the people who were still

there by the side of the road. The cop and me up front, the rowdies and drunks in the back.

"It must be great fun being a policeman," I said.

"It is," he said.

"What's the best about it?"

"I think it's helping people out at their worst moments."

At the back of the Hunting Inn, I thanked the officer for the ride, then hopped down to some people waiting for me there. Then I was escorted inside to a little parlor where, as I said earlier, I had been told I'd find this long line of kids and parents backed up out the door waiting for me.

I took my position, settling into this big red easy chair. And so, one at a time, the kids approached.

"And what is your name? And what do you want for Christmas?"

Some were struck dumb and speechless by this question. Others told me their names proud and loud. Some sat on my lap. Some were told to turn around and have their pictures taken with me. As for what they wanted, they'd whisper to me confidentially.

Overwhelmingly they wanted things made by Apple—an iPod, or an iPad or an iPhone. Slightly less often, they asked for video games, particularly one called a 3GS.

"What's a 3GS?" I'd ask.

"It's like a GS, but it's a 3GS."

Here I was, somebody from the Fourth Century. What did I know?

And so it ended. And I went home, weary, happy and very proud to have done what I did.

In our kitchen, I opened the envelope, which

was addressed to SANTA CLAUS, NORTH POLE.

"I have been a very good boy throughout the year. I have a new baby brother named (name withheld). I promise to be good and generous. I will share my toys with him and I will take care of him always. Here is a list that me and (name withheld) would like for Christmas."

It was an extensive list. It included a toy dog, a forklift toy, a crane, a log truck, a snow sled, a walkie-talkie, a Playmobil fire engine, a motorcycle.

Is this kid's dad reading this?

After that, still in my Santa suit, I took a long nap by the fire in the living room.

# Book

(continued from page 36)

world were going to end and this was helping lead to its destruction. The only positive act would be to leave a record. To leave a chronicle of feelings, acts, reflections, something outside of me, something that might be useful in the unexpected future."

Aside from *Swimming to Cambodia* which brilliantly took Gray "outside" himself into the savage, genocidal world of the Khmer Rouge, his focus was on his inside, "narcissistic" (his word), increasingly suicidal world. One wonders if biography might not have better served to secure Spalding Gray's theatrical reputation over and against the record of his psychiatric condition.

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or if you would like to be an expert call 631-537-0500





Editor: Maria Tennariello | Layout Designer: Nadine Cruz

## AMY ZERNER SPIRITUAL CREATIONS

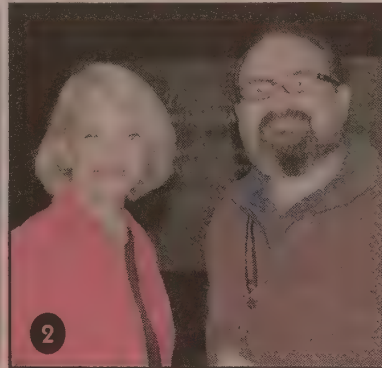
Zerner created a new style "Jo: Jacket" for her latest show at Bergdorf Goodman in New York along with her exquisite jackets, caftans and spiritual couture jewelry collection. Legendary goddesses such as Elizabeth Taylor, Oprah, Martha Stewart, Patti LaBelle, Goldie Hawn and Shirley MacLaine all own Zerner's one of a kind creations.



1. Linda K. Alpern, Amy Zerner, Camilla Galluzzo
2. Karina Prokopov, Robin Neimark Seegal
3. Gabriel & Xavier Guerra, Vanessa Sterbenz Guerra

## GUILD HALL PRESENTS LIVE AT THE MET

Guild Hall presented The Met: Live in HD at The John Drew Theater in East Hampton



1. Stan Herman, Terrence McNally, Tom Kirdahy
2. Ruth Appelhof, Josh Gladstone

## HAPPY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION AT ROSE JEWELER, SOUTHAMPTON

Photo: Tom Ratcliffe III



Peter Storm, Edna Haak, Bill Mazza, Jaeda Presson (Heather Moore), Jan Rose, Melanie Bruno (Links of London)

## ANNUAL POLAR BEAR FUNDRAISER

Human Resources of the Hamptons 8th Annual Polar Bear plunge was held at Coopers Beach in Southampton. Hundreds of "plungers" attended the festive event, some in full costume in 40-degree Weather to raise funds for the less fortunate.

Photos: Rose Marie Oliviero



1. Kyle Holmes, Nick Epley, Zach Epley and Mayor Mark Epley
2. Kathy Ferraro (SH Town Animal Shelter), Linda Mello and Bee Bee
3. Maryann Tupper (Director Human Resources), Jimmy Mack (Hamptons Resident Mermaid), Bonnie Grice (Emcee)
4. "The Plungers"

## DAN'S PAPERS HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Dan's Papers staff gathered together to celebrate the holiday season at their annual holiday dinner. The festive occasion was held at the beautiful Rumba Rum Bar in Hampton Bays. Happy Holiday's to all from our staff at Dan's!





# NORTH FORK

## Restaurant Review: Cliff's Elbow Room

By Genevieve Horsburgh

Walking into Cliff's Elbow Room in Jamesport, the first thing I took note of was the local crowd at the bar, because you just couldn't help but notice how much fun they were having. The small but inviting dining room is located just across from the bar and the sense of casual fun emanated throughout the establishment. The décor is decidedly nautical with rustic touches. The restaurant's many awards are displayed proudly in the bar area, which most recently includes a trophy for Best Chowder at the Greenport Maritime Festival, and *Dan's Papers* 2011 Best of the Best for Best Burgers and Clam Chowder.

It wasn't too difficult to decide what to eat – I'd been doing my research and talking to friends and colleagues. My husband and I started with fried calamari, shrimp cocktail, and the red Clam Chowder. The breading on the calamari offered a satisfying crunch and the flavors were subtle enough to allow the calamari to shine, which it did as it was cooked until perfectly tender. Paired with the chunky marinara and some lemon, the fried calamari was excellent. My husband particularly enjoyed the jumbo shrimp cocktail because of the cocktail sauce, which our wonderful waitress Carol (who has been serving guests at Cliff's Elbow Room for over 40 years) confirmed was homemade – you could see the freshly grated horseradish (and you could certainly feel it cleanse your sinuses!).

The Clam Chowder was everything I had expected



Photo by Genevieve Horsburgh

it to be – hardy, comforting and delicious. The chunks of clam were like jewels in my bowl of soup, and the broth was complex with flavors and the essence of fresh ingredients. It's no wonder they have so many Chowder awards – they deserve them!

For our entrees, I'd been advised to try the steak, with its signature marinade. Well, I don't have to be told twice to eat steak. We chose a New York Strip Steak for my husband and I decided to try the Surf & Turf, which included a Filet Mignon and a whole lobster tail. The strip steak was excellent, a superb cut of meat cooked to perfection. To accompany the Strip, we chose a baked sweet potato served with Cliff's own cinnamon butter, which was devilishly good eats.

My Surf & Turf meal was enormous. Cliff explained

to us that he chooses South African lobster tails specifically for their excellent quality and taste. My lobster tail was meaty and succulent, with a sweetness that you get only from the best lobsters. My filet was cooked perfectly medium, and it cut like butter. It was, quite frankly, the best steak I have ever eaten. As Cliff and Carol explained, the steaks at Cliff's are flash marinated and charbroiled. The charbroil cooking method gives the steak that delicious crunch on the outside, and the marinade is salty, savory and just plain delicious. It's a recipe that's been working for Cliff's since 1958, and I will definitely be back for more.

Every good meal deserves dessert, so I asked Carol what her favorite one was (and believe me, there is quite a long list of desserts). She

immediately answered "the Toasted Almond Cake." Even though we thought we couldn't fit anymore in, we made room for that cake and finished the whole slice. Layers of white cake and vanilla-almond filling, topped with toasted almonds and mounds of whipped cream – it was light and delicious, the perfect end to an amazing steak dinner.

It doesn't get much better than Cliff's Elbow Room in Jamesport. You can enjoy casual yet sophisticated food in a laidback, comfortable atmosphere, on the North Fork. Cliff's Elbow Room is moderately priced, with entrees ranging from \$16 to \$36.

Cliff's Elbow Room, 1549 Main Road, Jamesport. 631-772-3292. Open daily. [www.elbowroomli.com](http://www.elbowroomli.com).

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# North Fork Events

For more events happening this week, check out:

**Arts & Galleries Listings pg: 52**

**Kid Calendar pg: 45**

**Day by Day Calendar pg: 54**

Contact organizations, as some require ticket purchase or advanced registration:

## UPCOMING

**HOTEL INDIGO - BISTRO 72 - THE NIGHT BEFORE NEW YEARS PARTY** - 12/30, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.; **CHAMPAGNE & CHANDELIERS** - 12/31, 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. open bar, tapas. D.J.. \$125 per person (\$400 overnight per couple). 1-516-719-7100, [www.indigoeastend.com](http://www.indigoeastend.com).

**HAPPY NEW YEAR \$20.12 WINE SALE** - 1/2, Sherwood House Vineyards, 1291 Main Rd., Jamesport. [www.sherwoodhousevineyard.com](http://www.sherwoodhousevineyard.com), 631-779-2817.

**LENZ BARREL TASTINGS WITH ERIC FRY** - February 4,5,18,19, March 3,4,17,18. 38355 Main Rd., Peconic. 631-734-6010. [www.lenzwine.com](http://www.lenzwine.com).

**WINTER WINE DINNER** - 3/10, 4-6:30 p.m. Lenz Winery, 38355 Main Rd., Peconic. 631-734-6010. [www.lenzwine.com](http://www.lenzwine.com).

## THURSDAY, 15

**THE WONDER OF CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA AT THE LIVING WATER CHURCH THEATRE** -December 15-17, 7:30 p.m., 12/18, 3 p.m. 24 Shade Tree Lane, Riverhead. 631-722-4969 ext. 204, [www.lwfgc.org](http://www.lwfgc.org).

**DOWNTOWN RIVERHEAD HOLIDAY WINDOW DECORATING CONTEST** - vote through 12/22 at the East End Arts Council, 133 East Main St., Riverhead. Tue. - Fri. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sun. noon-4p.m. [www.eastendarts.org](http://www.eastendarts.org).

## FRIDAY, 16

**FIRESIDE FRIDAYS** - 4-7 p.m., Live music and glass specials. Sherwood House Vineyards, 1291 Main Rd. Jamesport. [www.sherwoodhousevineyard.com](http://www.sherwoodhousevineyard.com), 631-779-2817.

**HOLIDAY WINE TASTING FUNDRAISER** - 7-9 p.m. The Suffolk County Historical Society, 300 West Main Street, Riverhead, hosts a special Holiday Wine Tasting fundraiser with Martha Clara Vineyards. During the tasting, guests can view the new exhibit "Charles Henry Miller: Painter of Long Island" and enjoy a gallery talk with exhibit curator. \$10 wine and refreshments. Reservations 631-727-2881 x100. [www.suffolkcountyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.suffolkcountyhistoricalsociety.org).

**EAST END ARTS COUNCIL HOLIDAY GIFT MARKET** - through 12/23, Tuesdays through Fridays 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sundays noon - 4p.m. 133 East Main St., Riverhead. 631-727-0900, [www.eastendarts.org](http://www.eastendarts.org).

**LIVE MUSIC** - 5:30-8:30 p.m., live music, Peconic Bay Winery, 31320 Main Rd, Cutchogue. [www.peconicbaywinery.com](http://www.peconicbaywinery.com), 631-734-7361. Free. [www.peconicbaywinery.com](http://www.peconicbaywinery.com), 631-734-7361. Free.

## SATURDAY, 17

**SPARKLING WINE SALON** - noon- 1p.m., Sparkling Pointe Tasting House, 39750 County Rd. 48, Southold, 631-765-0200. Each Saturday through December 24, a wine educator will introduce you to a Sparkling Pointe Methode Champenoise. Reservations Required. Seats are Limited! **LIVE MUSIC** - 1-5 p.m., Bedell Cellars, Bryce Larsen, former "American Idol" contestant, 36225 Main Road, Cutchogue. 631-734-7537

**LIVE MUSIC** - 1-5 p.m., Peconic Bay Winery, 31320 Main Rd., Cutchogue. [www.peconicbaywinery.com](http://www.peconicbaywinery.com). 631-734-7361. Free.

**LIVE MUSIC** - 1-5 p.m., Sparkling Pointe Vineyards, 39750 County Rd. 48, Southold. 631-765-0200, [www.sparklingpointe.com](http://www.sparklingpointe.com). Free.

**SPARKLING AND CAKE** - 2-5 p.m. Sherwood House Vineyards, Jamesport. Details 631-779-2817.

**LIVE MUSIC** - 2-5 p.m., Martha Clara Vineyard, East End Trio. 6025 Sound Ave., Riverhead. 631-298-0075, [www.marthaclaravineyards.com](http://www.marthaclaravineyards.com). Free admission.

**SHERWOOD HOUSE MUSIC** - 2-6 p.m. Sherwood House Vineyard, 1291 Main Road, Jamesport. [www.sherwoodhousevineyards.com](http://www.sherwoodhousevineyards.com). Free.

**SATURDAY STARGAZING** - 7 p.m.-midnight (every Saturday night, weather permitting, call first). Custer Institute & Observatory, 1115 Main Bayview Rd., Southold, Bayview Dr., Southold. After dark, Custer's powerful telescopes will be focused on the heavens. Suggested donation \$5 adults, \$3 children under 14. Free for members. 631-765-2626.

**LIVE MUSIC** - 1-5 p.m., Bedell Cellars, Dan Donnelly, soft rock, 36225 Main Road, Cutchogue. 631-734-7537

**LIVE MUSIC** - 2-5 p.m., Martha Clara Vineyard, Take Three, 6025 Sound Ave., Riverhead. 631-298-0075, [www.marthaclaravineyards.com](http://www.marthaclaravineyards.com). Free admission.

## MONDAY, 19

**FREE YOGA** - 3-4:15 p.m. Mary Smith Recreation Center, Greenport. Free Hatha Yoga classes for beginners. Bring non-skid, body-length mat. 631-765-3005.

## TUESDAY, 20

**DRIVE-BY BIRDING** - 8 a.m., North Fork Audubon Society's Tuesdays with Tom program. Meet at the Mattituck Shopping Center, Route 25, Mattituck. Drive to East End hotspots looking for wintering species of birds including white-crowned sparrows, rough-legged hawks, merlins, and more. Call 631-275-3202 if you plan to attend. Free.

## WEDNESDAY, 21

**GIRLS NIGHT OUT** - every Wednesday beginning at 3:30 p.m., Cooperage Inn, 2218 Sound Ave., Baiting Hollow. Reservations 631-727-8994. [www.cooperageinn.com](http://www.cooperageinn.com).

## THURSDAY, 22

**CLASSIC CAR SHOW** - 5:30 p.m. every Thursday. Peconic River, Riverhead. Classic cars, food and music. Free.

**OPEN MIC NIGHT** - 6-9 p.m., Peconic Bay Winery, 31320 Main Rd., Cutchogue. [www.peconicbaywinery.com](http://www.peconicbaywinery.com). 631-734-7361. Free.

## FRIDAY, 23

**FIRESIDE FRIDAYS** - 4-7 p.m., Live music and glass specials. Sherwood House Vineyards, 1291 Main Rd. Jamesport. [www.sherwoodhousevineyard.com](http://www.sherwoodhousevineyard.com), 631-779-2817.

**PECONIC BAY LIVE MUSIC** - 5:30-8:30 p.m. Peconic Bay Winery, 31320 Main Rd., Cutchogue. [www.peconicbaywinery.com](http://www.peconicbaywinery.com), 631-734-7361. Free.

**SKATEBOARDING** - Skate park in Greenport offers ramps and a half pipe. 631-477-2385.

Send North Fork Calendar listings to [stacy@danspapers.com](mailto:stacy@danspapers.com) before noon on Friday.

Check out [www.danshamptons.com](http://www.danshamptons.com) for more listings and events.



photo by S. Dermont

## SUNDAY, 18

**LIVE PIANO** - during brunch 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Giorgio's, 100 Fox Hill Dr., Baiting Hollow. \$26.95, children 3-12 \$16.95. 631-727-6076, [www.giorgiosli.com](http://www.giorgiosli.com).

**FREE TOUR SUNDAYS** - 1-2 p.m., Sparkling Pointe Tasting House, 39750 County Rd. 48, Southold, 631-765-0200. Learn the secrets of Methode Champenoise and Sparkling Wines as your tour guide brings you throughout the cellar of the winery and (weather permitting) to parts of the vineyard! Reservations Required. Groups are Limited.

**LIVE MUSIC** - 1-5 p.m. Peconic Bay Winery, 31320 Main Rd., Cutchogue. [www.peconicbaywinery.com](http://www.peconicbaywinery.com). 631-734-7361. Free.



The Staff of Dan's Papers

*Wishes you a  
Happy & Healthy Holiday Season*

**Our Office will be closed  
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# LifeStyle



## SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP

with Maria Tennariello

Well here we are, almost ready to open our presents for the Christmas holiday celebration. Time flies when you shop...Let's do it!

Based in Westhampton Beach, **Basket of the Hamptons** specializes in creating unique gift baskets made from beautiful willow. The baskets are filled with some of the finest East End specialty companies' goodies including Hamptons Cookie Company, Hamptons Coffee, Pennycakes Bakery and The Village Cheese Shop in Mattituck, just to name a few. Their focus is to help the local businesses of the East End promote their products, as well as give the local community the chance to try fantastic eats. For info call owner Tracy Clark, 631-770-3519.

Do I love **Bar Boy**, 218 W. Montauk Highway, Hampton Bays for whatever I need for whenever I need it...no kidding there are tons of things for the holidays including personal, commercial and gift-giving items. That complete turkey fryer set is \$99, home beer units start at \$679, Kitchen Aid mixers and 12-cup food processors and accessories, Waring health juicers, commercial Waring bar blenders start at \$76.50, popcorn machines in six sizes start at \$59. There is also the complete line of American-made Dexter knives, Forschner Swiss cutlery, and the forever searched for poly and wood banquet tables start at \$55.90 to \$258. [www.barboyonline.com](http://www.barboyonline.com) 631-728-7100.

### HOLIDAY SHOPPING IN SOUTHAMPTON:

You will add plenty of sparkle to your holiday gift-giving with "the ultimate in casual luxury" - fine colored gemstones handcrafted in 18K gold,

the 'Candy' Flamenco' bracelet can be purchased at **Tamara Camolli**, 27 Main Street. 631-283-7600 - [www.tamarcomolli.com](http://www.tamarcomolli.com).

At **Flowers And Company Antique Center**, 245 County Road 39, considered the Hamptons' only multi-dealer market, there are more than 30 dealers, featuring a vast and varied selection of antiques, collectibles and decorator treasures ready for your gift giving. Not only a flower and gift shop, there is so much merchandise to choose from including vintage, art, lighting, tabletop, jewelry, furniture, antiques to mid-century modern. The holiday sale offers savings up to 50% on their entire inventory through December 31. Open 7 days, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 631-726-7275, [www.flowersandcompanyantiquescenter.com](http://www.flowersandcompanyantiquescenter.com).

The beautiful **Sea Green Designs**, 27 Hampton Road, is celebrating its 4th Annual Holiday Open House, Saturday, December 17. Stop in anytime from 10 a.m. until late for "Candle Light" shopping and seasonal refreshments. Sea Green Designs will be donating 10% of December's profits to the Group for the East End in order to give a little back to the East End that inspires us all. 631-259-3612, [www.seagreendesignllc.com](http://www.seagreendesignllc.com).

I love **Flying Point Surf & Sport**, 63 Main Street and **Flying Point Surf Boutique**, 65 Main Street, for the very special darlings on my gift list. You can accessorize your holidays with Maui Jim's Mahina (\$259) or Ray Ban's folding Wayfares (\$165). Look stylish this season with a G-Shock (\$130). Listen to the hot-test music with Scullcandys ROCNATION Aviator Headphones (\$180). How about the Gopro HD video camera. It's waterproof, wearable and creates five megapixel photos, (\$179), a great gift for videoing surfing, skating, hunting,



Santa and Louie

diving. While you are in the store check out **Flying Point Grom**, 65 Main Street. The Volcom zip-up hoodie is on their list for sure, choose from their huge selection. How about Bogs totally 'waterproof' snow boot for function and warmth. Another must-have for the kids are Knitwits gloves and hats. They're 100% natural wool and come in great animal themes at \$32. For more information on all locations visit: [www.flyingpointsurf.com](http://www.flyingpointsurf.com) - 631-287-0075.

Mark your calendar for the Holiday Benefit Party at **Little Lucy's Canine Couture and Beau Hulse Realty Group**, 91 Jobs Lane and to help Rescue Group's underprivileged dogs on Saturday, December 17 from 2 - 6 p.m. You can adopt that special friend just in time to sit

him or her under your Christmas tree. Also, look for a new shipment of warm winter sweaters and coats for your pooch and while you're there you will enjoy appetizers, beverages and more. 631-287-2352.

**27 Hampton Salon**, 27 Hampton Road, is a full-service hair and makeup salon featuring organic hair color as well as traditional. They are now carrying their exclusive makeup and botanical skin care by Rulef Cosmetics. Enjoy a holiday makeover with lash application and brow shaping and a stunning, red carpet worthy upstyle. Get a gorgeous sunless, 100% natural airbrush tan by Suvara. Daily specials include manis, pedis, hair care and much more. Gift certificates are also a good idea. For info and appointments call 631-377-3107, [www.27HamptonSalon.com](http://www.27HamptonSalon.com).

At **Impulse Boutique**, 94 Main Street, you can dress up for the holidays and strut your stuff in their fabulous special red hot dress that is available in sizes 4-14, at the amazing price of \$98. This is a must-stop-shop, especially for holiday fashions and accessories. [www.impulseboutiques.com](http://www.impulseboutiques.com), 631-676-4773.

At **Stitch**, 22 Nugent Street, you can choose ready or custom-made, imported designer fabrics from couture to clothing, great accessories and gifts. You can be your very own designer. There are some wonderful gifts for men that include scarves and cashmere socks. 631-377-3993, [www.stitchsouthampton.com](http://www.stitchsouthampton.com).

Bring your oversized shopping bag to **Kembali Bebas** located at the Amagansett Square. Moving to another location, Lorraine has to clear everything out by mid-January. All clothing is 40% off the markdown price...(in some cases it makes the item 80% off the original price), Tribal corduroy pants are now \$17.97, jewelry is marked down 60%, all accessories, hats, gloves are 20% off the already marked down price. Open daily, 631-267-3455.

In Montauk at **Kailani**, 29C, Montauk Highway from now until Christmas Eve, everything in the shop is priced at 50% off. There is a nice choice of holiday gifts that include women's dresses, coats, jewelry and all home décor. The shop is open Friday through Monday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call Kristin at 631-668-1518, [www.shopkailani.com](http://www.shopkailani.com).

Until next week. Ciao and happy holiday shopping! If you have any questions or your shop is having sales, new inventory, re-opening, or a brand new business, my readers want to hear about it. E-mail me at: [Shoptil@danspapers.com](mailto:Shoptil@danspapers.com) or [NewKids@danspapers.com](mailto:NewKids@danspapers.com) - I will be happy to get the word out!

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## The Zen Garden

By Marion Wolberg Weiss

The ebb and flow of life here in the Hamptons is a hectic phenomenon: summers bring heavy traffic, dense crowds, a buzz of activity. The winters are less engaging, of course, but bad weather often means snow-cleanups and the like. Many people yearn for a quiet, calming place where they can find solace at last: a physical space that exists right at home.

Peter Gamby has created the perfect place, a rock garden that overlooks the marshes and an inlet of Gardiner's Bay where he and his wife, artist Julie Small-Gamby, can enjoy the view and connect with the venue's spiritual and aesthetic qualities.

Even so, this is not an ordinary oasis. It's actually a Zen garden that was instituted as a Kyudo practice area, according to Gamby. "It's not a stand-alone garden but a very modest Americanized version of the magnificent Zen and Japanese gardens one finds in Kyoto," he remarks, looking like a person who is transformed at the very mention of his endeavor.

The idea of a Kyudo "practice place" also makes this garden special to Gamby. He honors "the way of the Bow," an age-old tradition exercised by the Samurai. Gamby celebrates such a tradition in a moving ceremony, entering the garden at the sound of a gong. Wearing white clothing and carrying arrows, he unpacks the arrows and aims them at a target, which is hidden from view. His actions are precise and slow, a kind of meditation.

Obviously, Gamby's archery skills are not related to sports. Instead, there's a philosophical reason for the ritual, manifested in this famous saying: "No target is erected. No bow is drawn. And the arrow leaves the string. It may not hit, but it cannot miss."

The garden itself becomes a philosophical experience as well, mediated by the senses. Visitors enter by hitting a gong mounted on an archway. Another gong in the background sounds several times, inspiring people to meditate. Other noises become apparent as water drips and crickets chirp. A neighbor's dog barks. Delicate smells permeate the air, coming from the surrounding flowers and plants. Small stones arranged in beautiful designs by Gamby cover the various areas of the garden, providing arresting mosaics. A statue of Buddha, a possession of Gamby's wife, sits among the bushes, of the year.



keeping watch over the sounds, smells and sights.

The garden shares a similar aesthetic ambience with the Gamby's home where Julie Small-Gamby's art is hanging. Her abstract paintings also conjure up the senses, particularly the idea of texture created by diverse materials, like beeswax, bone, rope and wire screen in "The Bone Piece." Other works, such as "Markings," not only evoke Lascaux cave drawings but also recall the archetypal tradition found in Gamby's Zen garden.

Small-Gamby's art is organic, to be sure, both in her themes and techniques. We can also say the same for the Zen garden, when everything becomes a part of everything else.

It's a place that captures the ebb and flow of life all 365 days

## Kid's Calendar

For more events happening this week, check out:

Arts & Galleries Listings pg: 53

North Fork pg: 43

Day by Day Calendar pg: 54

AMG-Amagansett; BH-Bridgehampton; EH-East Hampton; HB-Hampton Bays; MV-Manorville; MTK-Montauk; Q-Quogue; RVHD-Riverhead; SGH-Sag Harbor; SGK-Sagaponack; SH-Southampton; WM-Water Mill; WH-Westhampton; WHB-West Hampton Beach WS-Wainscott

### UPCOMING

**HOLIDAY VACATION WORKSHOPS** -- 12/26 - 12/28, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Parrish Art Museum, 25 Jobs Ln., SH. 631-283-2118, [www.parrishart.org](http://www.parrishart.org). Space is limited, advanced registration and payment is required. \$25 Parrish Members/ \$35 Nonmembers.

**WINTER NATURE HIKE** - 12/29, 10 a.m. Guided hike up to North Pond, through Pine Barrens. 3 Old Country Rd., Quogue. A free program for adults and families. Reservations required 631-653-4771.

**HAMPTON IDOL** - 1/6, 4 p.m. - 8 p.m. The Town of Southampton Youth Bureau is holding open auditions for the fifth annual singing competition for grades 7-12. Bring own music without vocals. Hampton Bays Community Center, 25 Ponquogue Ave., HB, 631-702-2425. [www.town.southampton.ny.us](http://www.town.southampton.ny.us).

**SKI & SNOWBOARD TRIP TO BELLEAYRE MOUNTAIN** - 1/28, 4:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. Sponsored by the Town of Southampton Youth Bureau. For youths 12 years and older, families welcome. 631-702-2425. [www.southamptontownny.gov/youthbureau](http://www.southamptontownny.gov/youthbureau). \$80 includes round-trip transport, lift ticket, lunch and lesson. Additional \$25 for equipment rental.

**STUDENT ART FESTIVAL PART 1** - 1/28 - 2/26. Grades K-8. 631-324-0806, [www.guildhall.org](http://www.guildhall.org), Free.

### FRIDAY, 16

**GOAT ON A BOAT TOT ART** - 10:30 a.m., 4 E. Union St., SGH. 631-725-4193. [www.goatonaboat.org](http://www.goatonaboat.org).

### SATURDAY, 17

**SAG HARBOR FARMERS MARKET** - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Bay Burger, 1742 Bridgehampton- Sag Harbor Turnpike, SGH.

**THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS** - 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. \$10 for everyone, \$9 for members and grandparents, \$5 for children under three. Goat on a Boat Theatre, 4 E. Union St., SGH. 631-725-4193, [www.goatonaboat.org](http://www.goatonaboat.org).

**THE NUTCRACKER SWEET** - 7:00 p.m. Also 12/18 3 p.m. Westhampton Beach Performing Arts Center, 76 Main Street. WHB. 631-288-1500. [www.whbpac.org](http://www.whbpac.org). \$15.

### SUNDAY, 18

**JCOH ANNUAL HOLIDAY FAIR** - 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. books and gifts for all ages. 44 Woods Ln., EH. 631-324-9858. [www.jcoh.org](http://www.jcoh.org).

**SHARK DIVE** - 11 a.m., ages 12 and up (12-17 must be accompanied by a parent). Long Island Aquarium and Exhibition Center, 431 East Main St., RVHD. The Aquarium puts you into a cage in the middle of more than 10 circling sharks! No diving certification necessary. 631-208-9200, [www.longislandaquarium.com](http://www.longislandaquarium.com). \$155/nonmembers, \$140/members (includes aquarium admission). Daily.

**CHOREOGRAPHING WHAT YOU CARE ABOUT, A MINI WORKSHOP** - noon - 4p.m. for girls 8-18, Kate Mueth and the Neo-Political Cowgirls Dance Theatre Company, Hampton Ballet Theatre School, 213 Butter Ln., Studio J, BH. No dance experience necessary. 631-329-7130. Pre-registration is required. \$50.

**FAMILY TOUR AND ART WORKSHOP** - 2 p.m. Tour the student art exhibition. Parrish Art Museum, 25 Jobs Ln., SH. 631-283-2118. [www.parrishart.org](http://www.parrishart.org). Parrish Members Free/\$5 Nonmembers

**GUILD HALL AND THE HAMPTONS SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL PRESENT THE GREAT ONE-MAN COMEDIAN EPIC** - 7:30 p.m. East Hampton Guild Hall, 158 Main St., EH. Q&A with playwright to follow reading. 631-324-0806, [www.guildhall.org](http://www.guildhall.org), Free.

### MONDAY, 19

**GOAT ON A BOAT PLAY GROUP** - 9:30 a.m., 4 E. Union St., SGH. 631-725-4193. [www.goatonaboat.org](http://www.goatonaboat.org). Also Friday.

### THURSDAY, 22

**MUSIC TOGETHER BY THE DUNES** - The Joy of

Family Music. Join us in this popular Early Childhood Music and Movement program for children, newborn through age 5 and their parents or caregivers. Singing, dancing, rhythmic chants, instrument play and movement are explored in a fun, educational environment. Songbook, CD's, newsletters and parent guide w/D.V.D. are included with tuition. Monday and Tuesday mornings at the Dance Center of the Hamptons in Westhampton Beach, Monday afternoon at Kidnastics in Center Moriches, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at the East Hampton First United Methodist Church, Thursday mornings at the Southampton Cultural Center, Friday mornings at SYS Recreation Center on Majors Path in Southampton and the Children's Museum in Bridgehampton, Sunday morning. Ask about a free demonstration class. 631-764-4180, [www.mtbythedunes.com](http://www.mtbythedunes.com).

E-mail Kid's Calendar listings to [stacy@danspapers.com](mailto:stacy@danspapers.com) before noon on Friday.

Check out [www.danshamptons.com](http://www.danshamptons.com) for more listings and events.

**Hampton Pediatric Dental Associates PC**

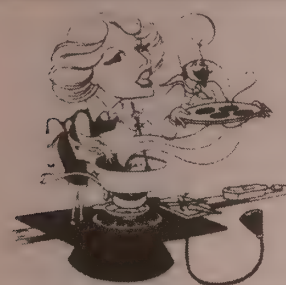
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Hampton Pediatric Dental Associates specializes in general dental care for young people. We believe that good dental habits started at a young age will last a lifetime. Our office is designed to make children (& their parents) feel comfortable in a situation that many adults choose to avoid! Our hours will accommodate even the most hectic schedule.



# Food & Dining



## SIMPLE ART OF COOKING

by Silvia Lehrer

The word Hanukkah, in Hebrew, means dedication. And indeed the holiday, also referred to as the Festival of Lights, which falls out on December 21 this year, commemorates the secular festival of Hanukkah to celebrate the re-dedication of the temple. Forced to abandon their faith in the time of Alexander the Great, Yehuda Macabee and his brothers led the Jewish people in a revolt, which lasted for three years and was ultimately successful. After their military victory, the Macabees entered the temple and found it defiled and desecrated with only enough oil to burn for one day. Miraculously the oil burned for 8 days giving the Macabees time to repair. No doubt the oil used for the lamps was oil from the olive tree. Burned in earthenware lamps, olive oil provided the most convenient source of light. Through the ages lighting the Menorah (candelabrum) symbolized the courage of the people and the miracle of light performed at the temple.

While Hanukkah is considered a minor holiday with few religious rituals other than lighting the Menorah for eight consecutive days, it is also associated with the subject of oil. Typically potato

pancakes – latkes – are prepared during the eight-day period and it would be difficult to imagine Hanukkah without them. Yet it isn't about the potatoes, it is about the oil. Never the less all manner of fritters may be prepared for Hanukkah.

For a take on the traditional pancakes combine a mixture of carrots, sweet potato and yellow bell peppers for a delicious vegetable pancake with a sweet edge. If you're not looking to prepare dozens of latkes, parsnip cakes for four, makes a delectable simple supper served with a salad. Happy Hanukkah!

### PARSNIP CAKES

*Any root vegetable suitable for mashing such as carrots, celery root or turnips, can be used for this recipe, either on their own or in combination. A variety of spices and herbs can also be added.*

Serves 4

- 1 pound parsnips
- 6 tablespoons flour
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- Several grinds fresh nutmeg
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/3 to 1/2 cup dry breadcrumbs, preferably your own
- Vegetable oil for frying
- Kosher salt and pepper



Everyone loves latkes!

1. Peel parsnips and cut into 1-inch chunks. Cook in boiling salted water until tender, about 16 to 18 minutes. Drain and put in a food mill over a bowl and puree. Add flour, butter and nutmeg and season to taste with salt and pepper. With a large wooden spoon stir mixture well until ingredients are thoroughly incorporated.

2. Divide mixture into 4 equal pieces and mold each piece into a round flat cake, about 3 1/4 inches in diameter and 1/2 to 3/4 inches deep. Dip each one into beaten egg; then into breadcrumbs, pressing

(continued on next page)



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9350





## SIDE DISH

by Aji Jones

**Blackwells Restaurant** in Wading River presents a Christmas Eve Grand Buffet on Saturday, December 24 from 3 to 7 p.m. The cost is \$34.95 per person plus tax and service charge, \$20.05 per child ages 3 to 12 and free for those under age 3. Reservations are required. The menu may include prime rib au jus and oven-roasted turkey carving stations; almond crusted flounder; pancetta and sausage-stuffed loin of pork; mixed winter greens with candied walnuts and dried cranberries; a full dessert station; and coffee or tea. 631-929-1800

**Jamesport Manor Inn** in Jamesport serves a three-course Christmas Eve prix fixe dinner on Saturday, December 24 beginning at 4:30 p.m. Offerings include warm Maytag blue cheese pear halves with endive, balsamic syrup and candied pecans; rosemary crusted New Zealand rack of lamb with crushed red bliss potatoes, haricot verts and cherry red wine sauce; and peppermint crème brulee. Cost is \$60 per person, \$30 for children

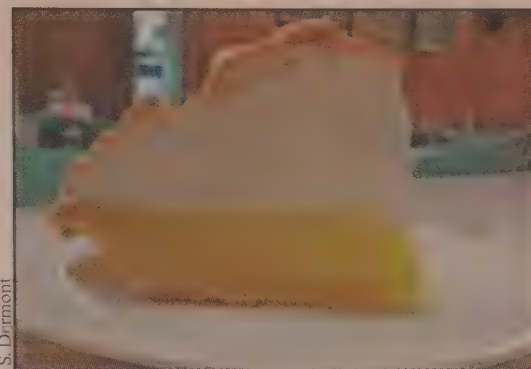
under age 12. 631-722-0500

**Pierre's** in Bridgehampton offers a \$55 prix fixe menu on Christmas Eve in addition to their regular menu. The prix fixe features sautéed shrimp with roasted potatoes, garlic confit, Calamata olives and mesclun; veal striploin with mushroom fricassée and potato and butternut squash Boulangère; and profiteroles with vanilla ice cream and warm chocolate sauce. The restaurant will also be open from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. on Christmas Day. 631-537-5110

**Serafina** in East Hampton serves Christmas Eve specials on Saturday, December 24. Beginning at 5 p.m., offerings will include artichoke carpaccio with baby shrimp, garlic and chopped tomatoes (\$12); homemade Pappardelle with roasted duck Ragu (\$18); and slow braised veal shank Ossobuco with saffron risotto (\$22). 631-267-3500

**Harbor Grill** in East Hampton now offers an additional \$10 to customers who purchase a \$50 gift card for a total value of \$60. Those who purchase a \$100 gift card will receive an additional \$20 for a total value of \$120. The restaurant will kick off the holiday early opening at noon on Friday, December 23 and from noon to 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Both days feature a happy hour with half-priced drinks and free appetizers at the bar from 12 to 3 p.m. The regular menu, the \$19 three-course prix fixe, kids menu, and homemade eggnog for kids and \$3 "Santa Spiked" eggnog for adults will also be offered. 631-604-5290

**Rowdy Hall** in East Hampton offers nightly winter specials. On Sunday, guests may enjoy a two-course supper for \$20 featuring slow-braised meats



Modern Snack Bar's Lemon Meringue Pie!

and hearty stews, while Monday and Tuesday are "Burger and a Movie" nights where \$20 gets diners a Rowdy burger and Regal Cinema movie voucher. Wednesday is "Date Night" featuring an entrée, dessert and glass of wine for \$20. From Thursday through Saturday, an appetizer and entrée prix fixe dinner is available for \$25. The prix fixe menu offerings change throughout the week. 631-324-8555

**Touch of Venice Restaurant** in Cutchogue serves an early three-course dinner special Tuesday through Friday from noon to 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$23 per person. In addition to a mixed baby lettuce salad and the dessert of the day, diners may choose from entrées of lasagna with meat; frutti di mare over linguine; grilled steak with balsamic mushroom sauce and sweet potato fries; and penne Venezia of chicken, mushrooms, sundried tomato and peppers. 631-298-5851

## Simple (continued from previous page)

well for an even coating on both sides. Arrange cakes on a plate, one layer deep, loosely cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for an hour or longer to firm.

3. Bring cakes to room temperature. Heat about 1 to 1 1/2-inches of oil in a cast iron or heavy skillet and sauté cakes for 3 to 4 minutes on each side until cooked through and golden brown. Drain on paper towels and serve as a light supper with a salad or as an accompanying vegetable.

### SWEET POTATO, CARROT AND YELLOW PEPPER LATKES

*The food processor makes easy work of this twist of the traditional potato pancake.*

Makes 10-12 pancakes

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 yellow or red bell pepper, trimmed, deseeded and diced
- 2 scallions, trimmed and thinly sliced
- 2 to 3 carrots, peeled
- 1 large sweet potato, peeled
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1/3 cup matzo meal
- 1/3 cup water
- Kosher salt to taste
- Freshly ground pepper
- Canola or vegetable oil for frying

1. Warm oil in a non-stick skillet and sauté bell pepper with scallions, until pepper is tender. Transfer to a side dish.

2. Place shredding blade in work bowl of a food processor. Cut carrots in lengths to fit the tube in the cover of the processor and process to shred. Cut potato in lengths and process as above. Transfer mixture to a large bowl. Add beaten eggs, matzo meal, water and salt and pepper to taste. Add bell pepper and scallions and stir to mix.

3. Add oil to a depth of 1/4-inch in a large heavy skillet. (I use a 12-inch Calphalon or cast iron skillet for even heat distribution.) Oil should be about 365

degrees or until the surface of the oil barely waves. Never allow the oil to come to a surface bubble. With a large oval spoon, drop vegetable mixture into the hot oil and flatten lightly with the back of a

spoon. Cook for 2 minutes on each side until golden brown. Transfer to a paper towel-lined cookie sheet to drain. Latkes may be prepared ahead and kept warm in a 200-degree oven.

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## HAMPTONS EPICURE

Stacy Dermont

### I've been going through severe farmers market withdrawal.

You can take a girl out of the country but....In order to gather the best, freshest local veggies I make a habit of visiting the East Hampton Farmers Market on Fridays, the Sag Harbor Farmers Market on Saturdays and farmstands like Foster's, Dale and Bette's and Serene Green after work Monday through Thursday.

But now it's the dead of winter and all the outdoor farmers markets are shut until May. I need greens and local cheese and carrots! The answer is here, just outside Sag Harbor, at Bay Burger on the Bridgehampton Turnpike. The Fair Food Market is now open every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Thank you Bay Burger for hosting this uniquely wonderful indoor/outdoor food fest every Saturday! Thank you Ana Nieto and Ivo Tomasini, our Sag Harbor Farmers Market managers, who sensed that the East End needs their fresh, local goods year-round!

Thank you farmers for doing "the dirty work" to feed us. Fair Food Market farm goods include organic veggies and herbs from Sag Harbor's Sunset Beach Farm, Aquebogue's Goodale Farms' fresh milk, eggs and pickles and Regina's Farm's evergreens.

Art Ludlow is there, just inside the door, slicing his amazing cheeses.

Wolffer Estate Vineyard is there with samples of their fabulous wines and jugs of their rose vinegar

K. Laffey



Local goodies make the best gifts!

— so theoretically you can pickle your own veggies if you'd like to — but I suggest you try Taste of the North Fork's pickled peppers, sweet preserves, dressings and salts. Pete's Endless Summer is awash in barbeque sauce and guacamole — they even sold me a rack of ribs.

"The pasta guy" is outside. I picked up some mushroom ravioli from him last week. He also has hot soups — but I'm partial to Greeny's soups. Greeny's has a tasty way with kale and sweet potatoes....

Chat with the farmers outside, pick up some cranberry beans from Marilee Foster, then come inside where it's warm and sample the flavored olive oils, buy some handmade stocking stuffers or a reusable market bag.

Recycling is rampant at the Fair Food Market. Any plastic bag on the premises has been used 73.2 times on average. Nonperishable goods have been fashioned by local artisans from vintage fabrics, buttons and seashells.

Have yourself a merry handmade Christmas — under a handmade quilt or a hand knit hat. If you celebrate Chanukah — how about a rugelach? Pick up some of the best potatoes for your latkes!

As Bay Burger co-owner Joe Tremblay says, "It's good to have life in the place all winter."

East Enders and weekenders agree that we're long overdue for this melding of fine foods and handmade goods. There's a bit of a church fair atmosphere with that European tradition of "everything local" at work. (This European tradition predates the locavore movement by about 4,000 years. The eastern "souk," or market, dates to prehistory.)


Sag Harbor is now a "market town." Hallelujah!

You can get almost anything "local" these days — even Greek sweets, chutney and feta cheese! Take it all in over a cup of coffee or just people watch — famous regulars include socialite Adelaide DeMenil, artists April Gornik and Brooke Williams and many other boldfaced names incognito in weekend clothes.

And the Fair Food Market is not just for the holidays — it will run every Saturday until the Sag Harbor Farmers Market re-opens in May! Nieto and Tomasini are also planning a North Fork Sunday Market. When that gets rolling — you know I'll be there and write about it!

Art installations are soon coming to the Fair Food Market....

The Fair Food Market, Bay Burger, 1742 County Road 79 (Bridgehampton-Sag Harbor Turnpike), Sag Harbor. Free admission. [www.turtlesshellhealth.com](http://www.turtlesshellhealth.com).



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# Restaurant Review: Race Lane

By Stacy Dermont

Reviews are not supposed to be all good. Gael Greene and Sarabeth Levine have both told me I must always find something negative to say about a restaurant for balance. I'm sorry but the only "bad" thing I can say about Race Lane in East Hampton is that it will be closed for the month of February.

Less than 10 minutes from Sag Harbor village, Race Lane could easily become my family's "neighborhood place."

In addition to the requisite full bar, roaring fire and tunes by Billie Holiday and Old Blue Eyes playing – Race Lane offered up a sweetly sleeping babe. The new addition to the homey atmosphere is Ryder Rose, daughter of owners Rowaida and Jay Plumeri. Ryder's older brother Jackson also made the scene.

I visited Race Lane earlier this year when Chef Dana Lamel was new in town. I was impressed. The menu is very different now and Chef Dana is still going strong.

My husband and I plan to go back soon – and take our son along – for Race Lane's \$30 prix fixe. It's a local's dream. Rowaida Plumeri told me, "This is definitely our home. We want to know everybody."

Santa will be at Race Lane this Sunday, December 18 and John Grisch is heading a special wine tasting event there on January 22. So many choices. Until we "race" back, we'll remember our recent meal fondly.

Naturally we started with cocktails – Jay Plumeri is a renowned mixologist. Our server Robbie mixed our drinks, following Plumeri's recipes. Robbie is a sweetie, he told us that he's "a nice Moroccan boy."

Husband started with a Champagne Cocktail of Moët champagne, Cognac, bitters and sugar. He

found it "Oh, nice!" and not too sweet.

I started with a Raspberry Lemon Drop composed of Stoli Raspberry, triple sec, a Chambord sink and fresh lemon. Even with its "sugar rim" this drink was not over-sweet and I love the idea of stirring my "sink" around to mix it up. Ordinarily I stop at one cocktail – but this was so good – I also ordered a Dark & Stormy. It's Goslings Black Seal rum, Bermuda ginger beer, Perrier and lime. This is a rum-forward drink pleasantly reminiscent of a Long Island Iced Tea.

We started with the Chicken Liver Pâté. It's served traditionally potted, but accompanied by house-fried flour tortilla chips. Wow is it rich. The cold, smooth pâté is well met by the still-warm, golden chips. Husband commented, "It's a shame I don't like liver." As he spread yet another knife-ful of the pâté thickly over a chip. These chips could give a good name to "bar food."

Then we had some warm breads – a crispy sour dough bun and a square piece of olive bread. Unlike many "olive breads," you can actually taste the cured olives in this one.

Then Robbie brought us each a Pumpkin Soup Shooter! With cool horseradish crème fresh and a pumpkin seed on top, this warm, savory soup was "Mmm, mmm, wow!" The mélange of flavors included hints of curry and nutmeg.

Robbie suggested a Chianti and a Falanghina white wine (very floral, what I celebrate as a very drinkable "girly wine") to accompany Husband's upcoming courses. The Race Lane Wine List includes some of our favorite New York wines – Herman J. Wiemer's Reisling from the Finger Lakes and Long Island's own Sherwood House, Palmer and Raphael wines.

So then we shared the best calamari either of us had ever had. Sautéed rings and tentacles with garlic and rosemary oil, garnished with microgreens. Simple is best.

On to the Beet Salad of purple, yellow and red beets with mint, pistachios and 12-year-old balsamic vinegar. The beets seemed to be guarded by two jolly, round sentinels of fried goat cheese. The mint brought out the earthiness of it all. And maybe it brought out the earthiness in me – it was around this time that I realized I couldn't very well tell Chef Dana what I thought of his food...with my husband nearby.

We both quite enjoyed the Fettuccine Bolognese with porcini. Al dente, of course, with just the right touch of pepper, nutmeg and parsley to accent the meaty richness. So good!

I went on to the Sea Scallops. Their natural, salty sweetness was complemented by a bed of yellow pepper grits and squiggles of habanero sauce along the sides of the plate. Scallops so buttery tender you can easily cut them with the side of your fork!

Husband indulged in an oven-roasted Cornish Game Hen with sausage bread pudding. The bird was tender, the pudding nicely spicy. He had most of it wrapped – so that he didn't explode – and enjoyed it for lunch the next day. He found it salty with a touch of sweet in the light of day.

We were full but still able to "ooh and ah" over an Almond frangipani of local apples with vanilla ice cream. Chef Dana cast a spell over those apple slices.

Maybe next time we'll manage to save enough room to try the Lobster Mac & Cheese....

Race Lane, 31 Race Lane, East Hampton. 631-324-5022, [www.racelanerestaurant.com](http://www.racelanerestaurant.com).

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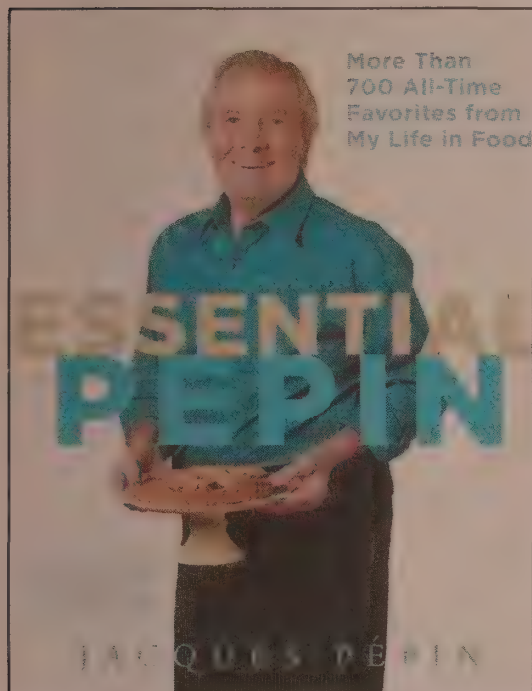
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# Essential Cookbook



By Stacy Dermont

The good news about legendary chef Jacques Pepin: he's still got it. Even better – you can get it.

Pepin's latest, greatest cookbook *Essential Pepin* features more than 700 of Pepin's "all-time favorite" recipes AND a how-to-do-just-about-everything DVD. Pepin will turn 76 years young on December 18 and he is as engaging as ever.

The cookbook is laid out in a friendly, readable type with titles in blue and instructions and ingredient lists in black. The recipes are written simply. Thank you, Jacques! There are no photographs of food – they would not fit within the 685 pages. But there are many of Pepin's own whimsical sketches of food. Photos of Pepin enliven the end papers of this sizeable volume.

Pepin has been promoting this new cookbook tirelessly on television and radio and at major food events. I wouldn't be surprised if the last page of this book that reads "la fin" is far from the end of Pepin's contributions to the world of cooking.

*Essential Pepin* by Jacques Pepin (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt: 2011) available locally from Books & Books in Westhampton Beach and online. \$40.

# Top 10 Responses to Bad Holiday Food



Compiled by Richard Scalera

10. Wow the blood pudding is really...bloody this year
9. Aunt Jean the way you incorporated gummy bears into the stuffing is so unique!
8. A mole sauce on turkey? Wow Sis!
7. Yes, Grandma apparently put the wine in the turkey this year.  
Would you like a hand up, Grandpa?
6. Wow, fruitcake as an entree, you've outdone yourself Mom!
5. Dessert just like the song Dad? It is not 12 golden Ring Dings!
4. The mint jelly I get. The mint mashed potatoes, not so much.
3. How cute that you let your kids choose dinner this year.  
Another Happy Meal, anyone?
2. Okay, I get the whole Turducken thing, but what is a HamRacum?  
Hamster, raccoon and possum!
1. I'm not doubting that is was squab, I just noticed Tweety wasn't in her cage today!

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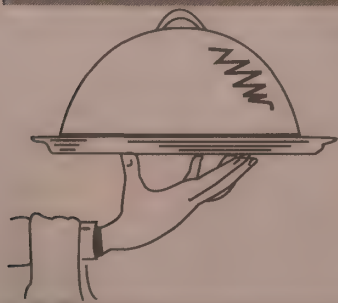


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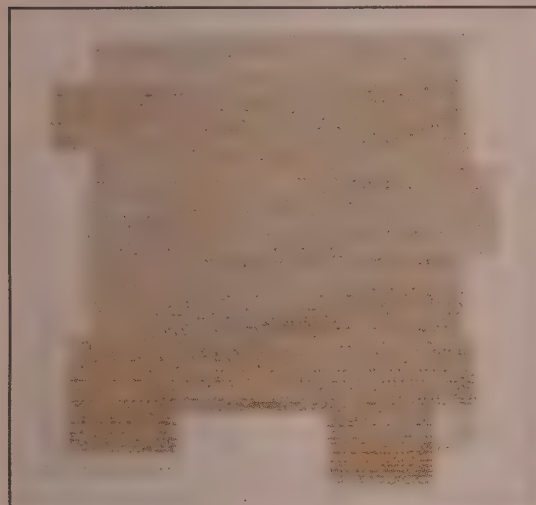


# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



## ART COMMENTARY

by Marion W. Weiss



Untitled No. 54

### Ferrer And Shiflett At Guild Hall

Guild Hall's current show featuring Rafael Ferrer is a refreshing sight for sore eyes. Or at least for those of us who are preparing to face a winter that's not always refreshing.

Ferrer's art is upbeat, colorful, often a bit quirky and full of literary and cultural references. On one hand, it's celebrating a joyful Latin lifestyle. Conversely, the work is a subtle and not-so-subtle look at poverty, at least by this critic's standards. If such an interpretation is a political/social one, it may

not have been the artist's intention. In fact, Ferrer's purposes only suggest possibilities; specific hidden meanings are not similarly suggestive.

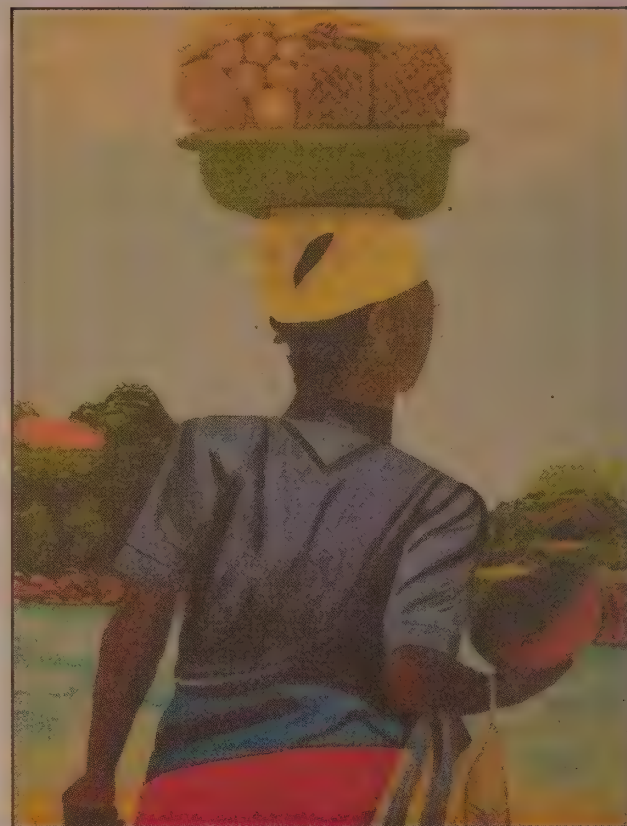
Of course, there are many images that are not "hidden," particularly concerning references to music, art history and literature, at least according to people who know Ferrer's work well. Other specific connections are evoked: his self portrait recalling Edvard Munch's expressionistic style; reflections of indigenous culture like Paton Miller's paintings; a "primitive style" relating to any number of other artists.

Yet, Ferrer creates a mixture of styles and themes that are uniquely his. For example, "Lecciones V" seems surreal, showing a box-like dwelling in a forest; misshapen small figures resembling people and a large cup and saucer are located nearby. The disparity in size is arresting and provocative. Why the differences? Is this a political metaphor referring to class structure: poor vs. rich?

"Virgin Isle" presents another disparity where a man stands in a room, looking at a strange machine. This is not the tropical forest shown in other paintings. Rather, it's an urban site that makes us wonder about the significance of the machine. (The exhibit's curator Esperanza Leon notes in the catalog that the man is David Smith and that the "machine" is actually his sculpture.) This information makes most other interpretations ambiguous or incorrect at best.

Ferrer's portraits are straightforward as far as messages go: they depict the human condition, no matter what the subject's station in life. As such, the expressionistic style enhances emotional variety in the individuals depicted. And if the facial expressions are ambiguous, that notion hits the nail on the head.

Drawings by Drew Shiflett, who won the top honor in the 2009 Annual Guild Hall Artist Members Exhibition, are also featured at Guild Hall. Her grid-like configurations on fabric also recall other



Rafael Ferrer, Dulzura, 1993

artists, as do Ferrer's works. In Shiflett's case, it's Agnes Martin, Alan Shields and perhaps Sol LeWitt. Yet the exquisite craftsmanship and design make Shiflett's mixed media pieces special. The lines are both delicate and sturdy, limited and sprawling, each area definitive, but also blending into each other. The detailed drawings stand out while forming a cohesive entity.

The show at East Hampton's Guild Hall will be on view until January 16, 2012. Guild Hall is located at 158 Main Street. Call for days and hours, 631-324-0806, [www.guildhall.org](http://www.guildhall.org).

## THE CINEAST

Dr. K.



The film *New Year's Eve*, featuring Hamptonites Sarah Jessica Parker, Matthew Broderick and Jon Bon Jovi, is easily as bad an atrocity as has ever been projected onto a screen. Don't blame the actors, though. They couldn't have known what they were getting into. Grandly conceived as an Altmanesque smorgasbord of characters and plotlines taking place in New York City over a small stretch of time (namely, New Year's Eve), the movie comes a cropper in the face of flat jokes, maudlin sentimentality and embarrassing racial stereotypes. Moreover, it appears that director Garry Marshall, perhaps in a late-career attempt to produce his magnum opus, saw fit to cram all of the stale storylines and gags from his old "Happy Days" series into one interminable picture. As each clunker of a joke fell off the screen and straight onto the floor, I started to long for a "Happy Days" laugh

track to fill the dead air in the theater.

An estranged couple reconciles, the ingénue gets her big break, boy and girl meet cute in a stalled elevator, the teenage girl gets her first kiss and the repressed secretary breaks out of her shell. The rich, entitled playboy chooses the path of true love, the young wise-guy turns out to have a heart of gold, a misanthrope is struck by cupid's arrow, the dying man receives forgiveness, the young father-to-be freaks out as his wife goes into labor – the list goes on. *New Year's Eve* is a Frankenstein, stitched together pieces of cast-off sitcom viscera. As each of these hoary strands of recycled plot reaches a tearful "Hallmark" moment, the director fades in the wistful music as a signal to pull out the Kleenex. I suggest such moments as opportunities to use the bathroom.

Like a 70's television show, *New Year's Eve* uses foreigners and minorities as a source of tasteless humor. Sofia Vergara, as a Latina sous chef to Katherine Heigl's head chef, acts like Charo on crack, while her Indian sidekick, played by Russell Peters, could have been conjured by Peter Sellers at his politically incorrect peak.

The director clearly wanted New York City to be a character of its own in *New Year's Eve*. And who doesn't like a bit of New York bluster and grit to sharpen the edges of the movie screen? But rather than the blunt, fuhgeddaboutit New York that we usually see in movies, *New Year's Eve* serves up a sort of candy-coated city, centered on the garish



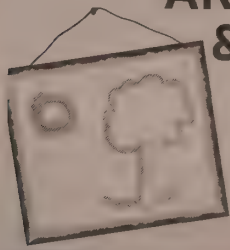
Sarah Jessica Parker in *New Year's Eve*

commercial spectacle of Times Square. I came away with the impression of a New York populated by well-behaved tourists, gentle cops and bit players from old episodes of "Barney Miller."

When a movie is okay, you let minor quibbles go, since they don't really take away from your pleasure. But when a movie is this bad, you start to question all the details. For instance, would the Rockettes really still be rehearsing their Christmas show on December 31? Would a Connecticut family really travel to the city on New Year's Eve in a recreational vehicle? Are we to believe that a world-class chef would spend most of her time on the job slicing pineapple? If you really want to join me in pondering these pointless questions, then by all means see *New Year's Eve*.



## ART OPENINGS & GALLERIES



For more events happening this week, check out:

**North Fork Listings pg: 43**

**Kid Calendar pg: 45**

**Day by Day Calendar pg: 54**

## OPENINGS AND EVENTS

**HANDBAG SHOW AT THE WINSTON GALLERY** – 12/18 – Opening reception, 4 p.m. for handbag artist Terri Sorro. One of a kind handbags mixed with leather. They are durable and washable and handmade by the artist. Winston Gallery, 95 Main Street, Sag Harbor. 631-899-4740.

**EGOMAINIA ART SHOW** – 12/17 – Paulina Keszler, a Ross School senior, presents. Opening reception from 5 to 8 p.m. Features multi-media art from Ross students and faculty and residents from the Southampton Fresh Air Home. Keszler Gallery, 5 Main Street, Southampton. 631-907-5361.

**EAST END ARTS SEEKING PERFORMANCE ARTISTS** – 1/27/12 – The East End Arts Gallery is seeking performance artists to participate in their Members Show reception on January 27, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Montaukett building at Suffolk Community College in Riverhead. Any performance artist with a talent is encouraged to contact the East End Arts Gallery at 631-727-0900.

**CURATOR'S TALK** – 12/30 – a talk about the exhibit "In Memory of...An Exhibition of Death and Mourning In Victorian America" will take place on December 30 at 5 p.m. at the Corwith House. Bridgehampton Historical Society, 2368 Montauk Highway, Bridgehampton. 631-537-1088.

**THE CRAZY MONKEY GALLERY** – Presents the Jana and Jim Hayden, and Small Works Show. Began until January 1. The gallery will also present an exhibit titled "Small Works" by members of the art cooperative. On view will be art by Claire and Daniel Schoenheimer, Wilhemina Howe, Lance Corey, Barbara Bilotta, Andrea McCafferty, Anna Franklin, Ellyn and Bob Tucker, Sheila Rotner, June Kaplan, Mark Zimmerman, Diane Marx, Ruth Rogers-Altmann and Catherine Silver. For more information, visit

the gallery website, [www.thecrazymonkeygallery.com](http://www.thecrazymonkeygallery.com).

### GALLERIES

AMG-Amagansett; BH-Bridgehampton; BP-Bellport; EH-East Hampton; EP-Eastport; GP-Greenport; HB-Hampton Bays; JP-Jamesport; MV-Manorville; MTK-Montauk; NO-Noyac; NY-New York; OP-Orient; PC-Peconic; Q-Quogue; RB-Remsenberg; RVHD-Riverhead; SGH-Sag Harbor; SGK-Sagaponack; SH-Southampton; SHD-Southold; SI-Shelter Island; SPG-Springs; WM-Water Mill; WH-Westhampton; WHB-Westhampton Beach; WR-Wading River; WS-Wainscott

**ANN MEDONIA ANTIQUES** – 36 Jobs Ln., SH. 631-283-1878.

**ARTHUR T. KALAHER FINE ART** – 28E Jobs Ln. SH. 631-204-0383, [arthurtkalaher@gmail.com](mailto:arthurtkalaher@gmail.com). (See listing above.)

**ASHAWAGH HALL** – 780 Springs Fireplace Rd., EH. 631-324-5671. [www.ashawagh-hall.org](http://www.ashawagh-hall.org).

**BOCK ART LIMITED GALLERY** – Works by Charles Bock, 16 Hill St., SH. 631-287-1078, [www.bockartlimited.com](http://www.bockartlimited.com).

**CHRYSLIS GALLERY ARTISTS EXHIBITION** – Open Mondays & Thursdays from 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Fridays & Saturdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sundays 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Ends 11/19. Located at 2 Main Street, Southampton, 631-287-1883 [www.chrysalisgallery.com](http://www.chrysalisgallery.com). (See listing above.)

**CHUCK SEAMAN FISH PRINTING** – 27B Gardner's Lane, HB. 631-338-7977.

**THE DRAWING ROOM** – through 12/31 – Paintings, sculpture, drawings, photographs, jewelry and ceramics by John Alexander, Diane Mayo and Caio Fonseca, 66 Newtown Lane, EH, 631-324-5016.

**EAST END ARTS COUNCIL GALLERY** – 133 East Main St., RVHD. 631-727-0900, [www.eastendarts.org](http://www.eastendarts.org). (See listing above.)

**EAST HAMPTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY** – The Claus Hoie Gallery of Whaling, East Hampton Town Marine Museum, East Hampton Historical Society, 301 Bluff Rd., EH. RSVP: 631-324-6850.

**GUILD HALL** – 158 Main Street, East Hampton. 631-324-0806.

**FOUR NORTH MAIN STREET GALLERY** – "The Other Portrait Show," artists Daniel Gonzalez, Paton Miller, Novel Degaetano, Brian O'Leary, John Pomianowski and Zellie Rellim. Located at 4 N. Main Street Gallery, SH. 631-885-1289.

**JILL LYNN & CO** – 81 Jobs Ln., SH. Works by Joelle Nicole. [www.jillynnandco.com](http://www.jillynnandco.com).

**LUCILLE KHORNAK GALLERY** – Portrait photography. 2400 Montauk Hwy., BH. 631-613-6000, [www.theportraitspecialist.com](http://www.theportraitspecialist.com).

**MARK BORCHI FINE ART** – 2426 Main St., BH. 631-537-7245, [www.borghi.org](http://www.borghi.org).

**MARK HUMPHREY GALLERY** – "The Renaissance NYC," group show. 95 Main St., SH. 631-283-3113, [www.markhumphreygallery.com](http://www.markhumphreygallery.com).

**PAILLETTS** – 78 Main St., SGH. 631-899-4070.

**PARASKEVAS** – Works by Michael Paraskevas. By appt. 83 Main St., WHB. 631-287-1665.

**PARRISH ART MUSEUM** – "American Portraits," through 11/27. Parrish Art Museum, 25 Jobs Ln., Southampton. 631-283-2118. Fridays at Noon, free admission to the museum and lecture, bring a bag lunch. [www.parrishart.org](http://www.parrishart.org). (See story on page 27).

**RICHARD J. DEMATO FINE ARTS GALLERY** – Featuring works by Kyla Zoe Rafert. 90 Main St., SGH. Open Thursday through Sunday, 11-6 p.m., Saturday to 9 p.m. 90 Main St., SGH. 631-725-1161.

**ROMANY KRAMORIS** – Open weekdays 11 a.m.-7 p.m. and 10 a.m.-11 p.m. or later on weekends. 41 Main St., SGH. 631-725-2499, [www.kramorisgallery.com](http://www.kramorisgallery.com).

**ROSALIE DIMON GALLERY** – The Jamesport Manor Inn, 320 Manor Lane, JP. 631-722-0500.

**SILAS MARDER GALLERY**, 120 Snake Hollow Road, BH. Holiday Salon group show, through December 18, and "Architecture of a Bomb," a site-specific installation by Ben Butler and Michael Rosch. 631.702.2306 or [info@silasmarder.com](mailto:info@silasmarder.com). (See listing above.)

**SIREN'S SONG GALLERY** – Featuring limited edition prints, paintings, sculpture and more. 516 Main Street, Greenport. 631-477-1021. [www.sirensongallery.com](http://www.sirensongallery.com)

**SOUTHAMPTON CULTURAL CENTER** – Levitas Center for the Arts at the Southampton Cultural Center, 25 Pond Ln., SH. [www.southamptonartists.org](http://www.southamptonartists.org). (See listing above.)

**SOUTH STREET GALLERY** – featuring Sibylle-Maria Pfaffenbichler, "The Joy of Music and Dance" exhibition. 18 South Street, Greenport. 631-477-0021.

**THOMAS ARTHUR GALLERIES** – 54 Montauk Hwy, AMG. 631-324-9070, [www.antiquesvalue.net](http://www.antiquesvalue.net).

**TRAPANI FINE ART** – 447 Plandome Road, Manhasset. Open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. 516-365-6014, [www.TrapaniFineArt.com](http://www.TrapaniFineArt.com).

**TULLA BOOTH** – "About Face: Portraits + Personalities + Documentary," featuring works by Burt Glinn, Steve McCurry, Costa Peterson and Bert Stern, through December 15, 66 Main St., SGH. Open Thurs.-Tues., 12:30-7 p.m. 631-725-3100, [www.tullaboothgallery.com](http://www.tullaboothgallery.com).

**VERED** – Winter group exhibition, "Landscape/Seascape," by modern masters Milton Avery, Oscar Bluemner and Thomas Moran will be on display with contemporary works by Wolf Kahn, Jules Olitski, Robert Dash, Balcomb Greene and Grant Haffner through January 30, 68 Park Place, EH, 631-324-3303.

**WATER MILL ATELIERS** – 903 Montauk Hwy, WM. Lon Hamaekers: Photography, art and 20th-century antiques. 917-838-4548, [www.lonhamaekers.1stdibs.com](http://www.lonhamaekers.1stdibs.com).

**WATER MILL MUSEUM** – "Vintage N.Y. Salt Water Baits and Lures from the '40s and '50s," 41 Old Mill Rd., WM. 631-726-4625, [www.watermillmuseum.org](http://www.watermillmuseum.org).

Send Gallery listings to [david@danspapers.com](mailto:david@danspapers.com) before noon on Friday. Check out [www.danshamptons.com](http://www.danshamptons.com) for more listings and events.

## MOVIES

Schedule for the week of

Friday, December 16 to Thursday, December 22.

Always call to confirm shows and times. Some are not available at press time.

**UA EAST HAMPTON CINEMA 6 (+) (631-324-0448)**  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks (G)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4:15, 6:45, Fri., 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 Sat., 2, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 Sun., 2, 4:15, 6:45

**Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4, 7, 7:30 Fri., 4, 7, 7:30, 10, 10:30 Sat., 12:30, 1, 4, 7, 7:30, 10, 10:30 Sun., 1, 4, 7, 7:30  
**Arthur Christmas (PG)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4:40, 7:15, Fri., 4:40, 7:15, 9:50 Sat., 2:15, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50 Sun., 2:15, 4:40, 7:15

**Hugo 3D (PG)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4:30, 7:40, Fri., 4:30, 7:40, 10:30 Sat., 1:30, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30 Sun., 1:30, 4:30, 7:40

**The Descendants (R)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4:20, 7:20, Fri., 4:20, 7:20, 10:15 Sat., 1:40, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15 Sun., 1:40, 4:20, 7:20

**Jay Edgar (R)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4:20, 7:30, Fri., 4:20, 7:30, 10:30 Sat., 1:15, 4:20, 7:30, 10:30 Sun., 1:15, 4:20, 7:30

### SOUTHAMPTON 4 (631-287-2774)

**Young Adult (R)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4:30, 7:10, Fri., 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 Sat., 1:30, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 Sun., 1:30, 4:30, 7:10

**My Week with Marilyn (R)** – Mon., Tues., Weds.,

Thurs., 4:45, 7:20, Fri., 4:45, 7:20, 9:40 Sat., 1:45, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40 Sun., 1:45, 4:45, 7:20

**New Year's Eve (PG-13)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4, 7, Fri., 4, 7, 9:30 Sat., 1, 4, 7, 9:30 Sun., 1, 4, 7  
**Arthur Christmas (PG)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4:15, 6:50, Fri., 4:15, 6:50, 9:20 Sat., 1:15, 4:15, 6:50, 9:20 Sun., 1:15, 4:15, 6:50

**SAG HARBOR CINEMA (+) (631-725-0010)**  
Closed Tuesday and Wednesday  
**Margin Call** – 4:10 all week except Tues/Wed  
**Revenge of the Electric** – 6:15 all week except Tue/Wed  
**Oranges And Sunshine** – 8 all week except Tue/Wed

**UA HAMPTON BAYS 5 (+) (631-728-8251)**  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks (PG)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4:30, 7:30, Fri., 4:30, 7:30, 9:45 Sat., 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:45 Sun., 1:30, 4:30, 7:30  
**Happy Feet (PG)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4:20, 7:20, Fri., 4:20, 7:20, 10 Sat., 1:50, 4:20, 7:20, 10 Sun., 1:50, 4:20, 7:20  
**Sherlock Holmes, A Game of Shadows (PG-13)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4:10, 7:10, Fri., 4:10, 7:10, 10:05 Sat., 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:05 Sun., 1:10, 4:10, 7:10  
**The Sitter (PG-13)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4:40, 7:40, Fri., 4:40, 7:40, 10:10 Sat., 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:10 Sun., 1:40, 4:40, 7:40  
**The Muppets (PG)** – Mon., Tues., Weds., Thurs., 4, 7, Fri., 4, 7, 9:50 Sat., 1:20, 4, 7, 9:50 Sun., 1:20, 4, 7

### MATTITUCK CINEMAS (631-298-SHOW)

**Sherlock Holmes – A Game of Shadows (PG-13)**  
**New Years Eve (PG-13)**  
**The Sitter (R)**  
**J. Edgar (R)**  
**Happy Feet 2 3D (PG)**  
**Hugo (PG)**  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks (G)**  
**The Girl with the Dragon Tatoo (R)**  
**Mission Impossible (PG-13)**  
**The Adventures of Tin Tin in 3D (PG)**  
**The Muppets (PG)**

### HAMPTON ARTS (WESTHAMPTON BEACH) (+) (631-288-2600)

**New Years Eve (PG13)** – Fri, 8, Sat, 3, 5:30, 8, Sun, 3, 5:30, 8, Mon-Thurs, 7  
**Margin Call (R)** – Fri, 7:30, Sat, 230, 5, 7:#0, Sun, 2:30, 5, 7:30, Mon-Thur, 7

### THE MONTAUK MOVIE (631-668-2393)

Closed for the season.

The sign (+) when following the name of a theater indicates that a show has an infrared assistive listening device. Please confirm with the theater before arriving to make sure they are available.





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**CANDLELIGHT FRIDAYS AT WOLFFER** - 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wölffer Estate Vineyard, 139 Sagg Rd., SGK. Music by The Morris Goldberg Trio. 631-537-5106, [www.wolffer.com](http://www.wolffer.com).

**SEISKAYA BALLET NUTCRACKER** -12/16 - 12/19, Staller Center, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook. Adults \$40, children & seniors \$34. [www.nutcrackerballet.com](http://www.nutcrackerballet.com).

**GROOVE GUMBO SUPER BAND** - 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Agave Mexican Bar and Restaurant, 1970 Montauk Hwy., BH. Every Friday night, 631-237-1334, [www.agavehamptons.com](http://www.agavehamptons.com). \$5.

## 

**SOUTHAMPTON TRAILS PRESERVATION SOCIETY** - 8 a.m. - 9 a.m. Narrow Lane Cleanup. Meet at Narrow Lane and east corner of Bridgehampton Turnpike to help clean. Bring gloves. 631-537-0660, [www.southamptontrails.org](http://www.southamptontrails.org).

**SAG HARBOR FAIR FOOD MARKET** - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Bay Burger, 1742 Bridgehampton- Sag Harbor Turnpike, SGH. Veggies, preserves, fresh fish, prepared goods, Greeny's hot soups, handcrafted gifts.

**SATURDAY MORNING FOOD AND WINTER COAT PICK UP** - 9 a.m. - noon, also 12/17, 1/7, 2/4, 2/18. Call 631-725-2458 in advance. All food and coats distributed from the Old Whalers Church in Sag Harbor free of charge.

**SOUTHAMPTONTRAILSPRESERVATIONSOCIETY** - 10 a.m. - noon. Long Pond Greenbelt North Circuit. Meet at Mashashimuet Park in Sag Harbor for a moderately paced hike. 631-745-0689, [www.southamptontrails.org](http://www.southamptontrails.org).

**MARDERS GARDEN LECTURE** - 10 a.m. Making Your Own Holiday Wreath Lecture, 120 Snake Hollow Rd., BH. 631-537-3700. [www.marders.com](http://www.marders.com). \$45 adults/\$35 children

**GUILD HALL PRESENTS SCREENINGS OF THE MET LIVE IN HD** - Faust (encore performance), 1 p.m. East Hampton Guild Hall, 158 Main St., EH. 631-324-0806, [www.guildhall.org](http://www.guildhall.org), \$20/\$18.

**THE NUTCRACKER SWEET** - 7:00 p.m. Also 12/18 3 p.m. Westhampton Beach Performing Arts Center, 76 Main Street. WHB. 631-288-1500. [www.whbpac.org](http://www.whbpac.org). \$1

**LIVE DANCE PARTIES AT SL EAST** - 8:30 p.m. Cover band Full House goes on at 9 a.m. SL East, 44 Three Mile Harbor Rd., EH with East Hampton Studio and Ocean Sound and Light host weekly Saturday night dance parties

## 

12/17 Fair Food

Market. See story on page 48 and listing below.



with live bands and a D.J. No cover charge before 11 p.m. Sponsors: The Enclave Inn, Dan's Papers, WVVH-Hamptons TV, East Hampton Studio, Ocean Sound and Light, East Hampton Indoor Tennis, Hampton Access, Dan Bailey & Living Rhythm, Hospitality Capital Advisors, Beach 101.7, Soozy PR. All bottles will be half price. Reservations 631-324-3332.

## 

**SOUTHAMPTON TRAILS PRESERVATION SOCIETY** - 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Poxabogue County Park and Sagg Swamp Meander. Meet at the Park entrance on Old Farm Road in Bridgehampton. Easy hike with views of grasslands, ponds and swamps. 631-283-1548, [www.southamptontrails.org](http://www.southamptontrails.org).

## 

**PREPARE THE WAY - MUSIC AND MEDITATION HOUR** -- 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Christmas music, meditation techniques and guided imagery experience. Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, 2350 Montauk Highway, BH. 631-537-0156. Free Will offering is suggested.

**JAZZ JAM AT THE PIZZA PLACE** - 7-9 p.m., Mondays. The Pizza Place, 2123 Montauk Hwy, BH. Join us for an open jazz jam session featuring The Dennis Raffelock Duo. Up-and-comers & old timers welcome! 631-537-7865.

**ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE - EXPECTING THE MIRACLE** -- 7 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, 2350 Montauk Highway, BH. 631-537-0156. \$10 suggested donation.

## 

**SOUTHAMPTON ARTISTS ASSOCIATION DRAWING WORKSHOPS** - 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays. Southampton Cultural Center, SH. 631-725-5851.

**GUILD HALL AND THE NAKED STAGE PRESENT A STAGED READEING OF 'CHRISTMAS SHORTS: 5 MERRY LITTLE COMEDIES' BY MATT HOVERMAN** -- 7:30 p.m. East Hampton Guild Hall, 158 Main St., EH. Q&A with playwright to follow reading. 631-324-0806, [www.guildhall.org](http://www.guildhall.org). Free.

## 

**JAM SESSION AT PAGE 63** - 7-9 p.m., Thursdays. Page, 63 Main St., SGH. Prix fixe special. Come enjoy some great jazz, played by musicians from the East End and beyond. Bring your instrument if you want to jam. 631-725-1810. Nonmusicians \$5.

**LIVE MUSIC** - 7-10 p.m. Muse Restaurant & Aquatic Lounge, 760 Montauk Hwy., WM. 631-726-2606, [www.musehampton.com](http://www.musehampton.com).

Send Day-by-Day Calendar listings to [stacy@danspapers.com](mailto:stacy@danspapers.com) before noon on Friday.

Check out [www.danshamptons.com](http://www.danshamptons.com) for more listings and events.

For more events happening this week, check out:

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Kid Calendar pg: 45

North Fork Calendar pg: 43

AMG-Amagansett; BH-Bridgehampton; EH-East Hampton; HB-Hampton Bays; MV-Manorville; MTK-Montauk; Q-Quogue; RVHD-Riverhead; SGH-Sag Harbor; SGK-Sagaponack; SH-Southampton; WM-Water Mill; WH-Westhampton; WHB-West Hampton Beach WS-Wainscott

## 

**NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE BALL** - 12/31, 9 p.m., Bay Street Theatre, 1 Bay St., SGH. Ring in the new year with a night of music and dancing. 631-725-9500, [www.baystreettheatre.org](http://www.baystreettheatre.org). \$60.

**FIRST MONDAY TOUR FOR SENIORS** - 1/2, 1 p.m. Light refreshments served, 25 Jobs Ln., SH, 631-283-2118, [www.parrishart.org](http://www.parrishart.org). Free.

**SAG HARBOR'S HARBORFROST** - 2/11, noon - 6 p.m. [www.sagharborchamber.com](http://www.sagharborchamber.com).

## 

**HELP SAG HARBOR FOOD PANTRY STAY GREEN** - donate canvas bags in the blue bin outside Old Whalers' Church main office, 44 Union St., SGH.

**JAM SESSION AT PAGE 63** - 7-9 p.m., Thursdays. Page, 63 Main St., SGH. Come enjoy some great jazz, played by musicians from the East End and beyond. Bring your instrument if you want to jam. 631-725-1810. Nonmusicians \$5.

**LIVE MUSIC** - 7-10 p.m. Muse Restaurant & Aquatic Lounge, 760 Montauk Hwy., WM. 631-726-2606, [www.musehampton.com](http://www.musehampton.com).

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Chef Marco Barrila of Insatiable EATS Catering in Hampton Bays will be cooking through the holidays to feed single mom families who are in crisis or struggling on the East End. Support is needed to feed a long and growing list of families. Volunteers are needed. Donation money for food is needed.

Call 631-353-3100 or go to [www.citizens4humanityny.org](http://www.citizens4humanityny.org).



# LETTERS

## AN INFLUENTIAL AUTHOR

Dear Dan,

I met Sheila Kohler more than a dozen years ago in the writing class conducted by Gordon Lish, then an editor of Alfred A. Knopf, who had a \$35,000 a year budget for new writers, and paid the chosen few, I believe, some \$5,000 for their first novel. I think that's how Sheila's first novel was published. In that class, held once a week from 6 p.m. until midnight, or however long it lasted, at one of his student's apartments, I also met Anne Pyne, Jamee Gregory, Amy Hempel, and other students, as well as James Salter who visited our class. That is where I heard Sheila read her short story about a deaf child. As I recall, it took place somewhere in Italy, and it was a very well-written and moving story.

When Gordon accepted me for his class, I had already had a novel published, and because Joyce Johnson, herself a literary figure, had been my editor at Dial Press, Gordon assumed, mistakenly, that I was an emotional and minimalist writer. Actually, when I wrote that novel more than 30 years ago in six long weekends in Southampton, about a woman head of a large Wall Street finance department, I was aiming for the big-money commercial market, with Jacqueline Susanne or some other forgettable commercial writers as my models. I made tons of money and got a deservedly lousy review in the *Sunday Times Book Review*. When I joined the famous Gordon Lish class, I no longer cared about money from my next novel. But I did want to learn how to write well. You could not perspire through Gordon's stomach-churning weeklies without being both terrified, humiliated, and learning, learning, learning. I remember with pride when he accepted short stories of mine for his literary magazine, *The Quarterly*. I remember Gordon Lish, James Carver's editor, with immense respect and great affection.

Therefore, I assume that the fact that his name is missing from the *Dan's Papers* interview with Sheila Kohler in the December 2, 2011 issue is due to editing, rather than to any failure of Sheila's to mention an immensely influential editor and unique writing teacher, who, I believe, published her first book. I wonder whether she uses Gordon's merciless methods of teaching in her classes?

I'm glad you brought this fine author to our attention.

Evelyn Konrad  
Attorney-at-Law  
Southampton

*Glad you liked the piece. -DR*

## THE PLIGHT OF THE POST OFFICE

Dear Dan,

There is a solution to "Postal Advice Where to Find \$6 Billion? Not by Closing the Sagaponack P.O." (Dan Rattiner - December 2). Consider untapped revenue sources available to reduce operating deficits and perhaps even turn a small profit. The United States Postal Service could sell advertising space on the sides of mailboxes, inside and outside the post offices along with the small jeeps, regular trucks and heavy-duty long-haul trucks. Sell off some of the valuable real estate and move to less expensive locations.

Why not join banks and fast-food restaurants that sublet space at Wal-Mart and other big box stores to open smaller post offices? Generate both revenue and customers by subletting excess capacity at underutilized post offices to other city or state agencies along with private sector businesses and license corporations to sponsor stamps for a fee.

Have members of Congress, the State Legislature and other elected officials pay the real, full costs for their annoying bulk rate mailings to constituents. They are nothing more than free re-election campaign brochures subsidized by taxpayers.

Charge the full price for all junk mail. Future increases in the price of stamps should be directly tied to inflation.

Why not apply free-enterprise solutions to provide a more cost-effective product, reduce deficits and

Send your letters to  
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(e-mails only, please)

prevent more branches from closing?

Sincerely,  
Larry Penner  
Great Neck

*Great ideas. Hard for government to turn on a dime. -DR*

## GOOD TIDINGS

Hi Nadine,

Just wanted to let you know that all of the packages that we put together for Jordan's Initiative Care Package Drive have now been shipped out....228 total with the last 13 going out today. We sent them to four different units along with the individual packages that you and others requested. Wish your brother well and I hope you and your family have a nice Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thanks for the help!

Chris Haerter, Sag Harbor

Proud Father of Marine LCpl Jordan Christian Haerter, Killed in Action in Ramadi, Iraq on April 22, 2008 Recipient of the Navy Cross for Extraordinary Combat Heroism.

*This is incredible. It's an honor to be included in something like this for Jordan and all our troops overseas. Happy Holidays! - NC*

email us

## POLICE BLOTTER

### Engagement Ring Stolen

A \$1,000 engagement ring was stolen from a Bridgehampton man last week. The ring, as well as \$500 in cash was stolen sometime between 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on December 5. Take it as a sign my man, take it as a sign.

### Pool Truck Stolen

A pool company's pick-up truck was stolen in Southampton and has not been recovered. The pick-up truck is estimated to be worth \$30,000.

### Winner

Around midnight a repo man attempted to tow away a car parked in the driveway of a woman's home in Riverhead. The woman, who had been late on her car payments for several months, came out of her house armed with a barbecue fork, yes, you read that correctly, a barbecue fork, and began to poke and scratch the car that the repo-man was driving. She then tried to stab the repo man with the barbecue fork. In the woman's defense, the repo man was driving a red Honda Element, which really do taste great when roasted for a long time in the oven and splashed with barbecue sauce. They also go great with some A-1 steak sauce.

### Shelter Island

Old Man McGumbus, 104, former World War II potato peeler, and chairman of the board for the Shelter Island Department of Homeland Security, was seen walking down Main Street in full army fatigues armed with an M-16 military rifle. McGumbus was also carrying on his person

four grenades and a pistol. The old man was marching through town and walking up to people in the street, asking them for their identification and what they were doing on Shelter Island. As McGumbus described in a press statement released by his publicist, the exercise was to, "Make the great citizens of Shelter Island feel more comfortable and secure, and to identify any potential threats to the island." At one point, Old Man McGumbus was taunted by Brooklyn resident, Tom Bologna, who told McGumbus that his identification was located in his underpants and that he should go and reach for it. McGumbus immediately took his rifle and pointed it at Bologna and said the words, "It's God damn hippies like you that are ruining this glorious country of ours." Unfazed, Bologna told McGumbus to go ahead and shoot, to which McGumbus then was heard saying that he didn't need a gun and that he would beat Bologna to death with his bare hands. Immediately after the gun was set down, a fist fight broke out. McGumbus, who is trained in Karate, kicked Bologna in the groin and screamed a loud, "HIIIIYAAA!" that could be heard through the town. Bologna tackled McGumbus to the ground, but was manhandled by the old man who began punching him in the face. With each punch he said, "YOU..." (punch), "DAMN..." (punch) "HIPPIE!!!" (punch). But it was at that point when McGumbus suffered a massive heart attack. He passed out in the street, an ambulance was called. No arrests were made and McGumbus has fully recovered.

*-David Lion Rattiner*

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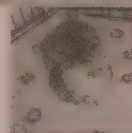
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**Service Directory  
Deadline  
5pm Wednesday**

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GANSETT GREEN  
MANOR**  
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**SOUTHAMPTON VILLAGE**  
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## Year Round Rentals

**Sag Harbor Village:** 2 BR, 1 bath apt., \$1,700 monthly, plus utilities. 631-725-4895

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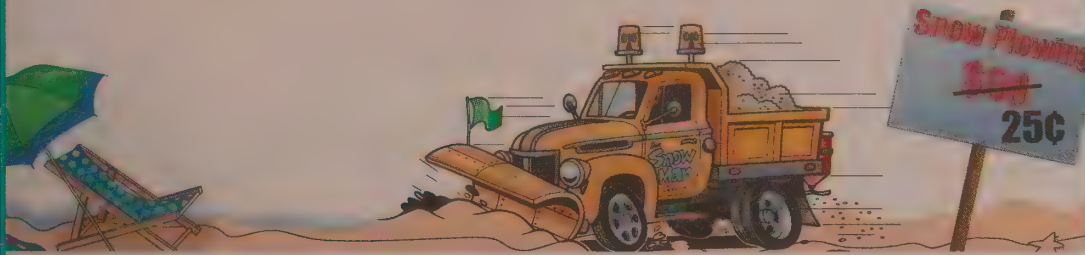
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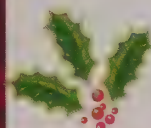
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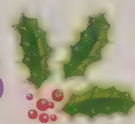
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